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And they're off ...

Nominations open for municipal elections

Registration for Ontario's municipal elections opened this week, on May 2.

Anyone wishing to run for council has until 2 p.m. on Friday, August 19 to file nomination papers.

Any residents considering or wishing to run for council can find information and forms on their lower-tier municipality's website or by contacting the municipal offices.

Candidates, except for school board trustee candidates, must gather 25 nomination signatures from eligible electors within the municipality.

Each of Haliburton County's four lower-tier municipalities will be keeping updated unofficial candidates lists on their websites so residents can see who is running for which position.

As of press time, in Algonquin Highlands, Liz Danielsen had filed her nomination papers for mayor. Previously she has served 12 years on council as Ward 2 councillor and

deputy mayor. In Minden Hills, Lisa Schell, who has served the last four years as deputy mayor in Minden Hills, and was a Ward 1 councillor prior to that for 12 years, had filed papers to run again as deputy mayor. Councillor Pam Sayne is seeking her third term as Ward 2 councillor.

As previously reported, Algonquin Highlands Mayor Carol Moffatt and Minden Hills Mayor Brent Devolin have announced they are not seeking re-election. In Dysart et al, Mayor Andrea Roberts has also announced she will not seek another term as mayor.

The 2022 municipal and school board election will be held on Oct. 24.

For more information on voting in Algonquin Highlands, visit www.algonquin-highlands.ca/elections.php.

For more information on voting in Minden Hills, visit mindenhills.ca/clerks-department/elections/.

Staff

HHHS responds to hospital closure concerns

by SUE TIFFIN
Editor

Responding to growing community concern that Minden hospital has been given a closure date, Haliburton Highlands Health Services CAO and president Carolyn Plummer told the *Times*, "No closure or service reduction decisions have been made," before issuing a press release to address the escalating concern.

"In response to concerns heard through the

community, HHHS shared today that no decision has been made about which emergency department might need to close or reduce services as a result of staffing shortages," said an April 29 press release from HHHS. "As well, no target date has been set for an emergency department closure or service reduction."

HHHS has continued to face nursing and physician staff shortages in the Haliburton emergency department and has been relying

see HHHS page 2



Perfect pass

Ava Smith prepares to set up a pass for teammate Bella Smolen during the HHSS Red Hawks senior girls' soccer game against Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute (LCVI) on Monday, May 2. See more photos on page 13. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



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Times, Echo, celebrate provincial awards

The *Minden Times* and *Haliburton County Echo* took home several awards at the Ontario Community Newspaper Association's Better Newspapers Contest on April 29.

A special ceremony was held virtually during the OCNA spring convention last week revealing first, second and third place finishes.

Steve Galea won the humour columnist of the year award. Galea writes weekly humour columns for the *Echo*, *Times*, *County Life* and sister paper, *Bancroft This Week*.

"Excellent columns," wrote the judge. "Very funny and tightly written. Steve knows how to tie in good ledes and well-crafted wraps. I enjoyed reading these."

The *Minden Times* won second in the editorial category with former editor Chad Ingram's "On conversion therapy" about Bill C-6.

"Well-written and developed," said the judge. "Good use of examples. Good background inclusion as part of your editorial development. This editorial rated highly on my first evaluation, but it stuck in my head. In the end, it was elevated because it did what editorials are supposed to make you do: think about the topic."

Kim Wark, longtime *Times* cartoonist, placed third in the OCNA's Cartoonist of the Year competition for Kwarky, her weekly creative contribution to the editorial pages.

Times photographer/reporter Darren Lum won a second place plaque in the best feature photo competition for "Backyard igloo provides positive shelter in Carnarvon," a photo of a mom creating an igloo in her backyard during pandemic isolation.

In its circulation category, the *Echo* placed second for general excellence which captures all aspects of the paper from commentary to classifieds, photography to feature stories.

"From Page 1 throughout, the *Haliburton County Echo* is a great newspaper, filled with a solid mix of hard news and feature stories, supplemented by strong photography, engaging opinion pages and quality design," the judges wrote. "Lots of effective, attractive ads complete the package."

Reporter Sue Tiffin won three awards in the premier categories. In the feature writing category, "Leopoldina Dobrzensky remembered as steward of land and local history," won second place; "100 years of Agnew's General Store having what you need," won second place in the heritage category; and "Gerontology student bringing joy through robocats," won



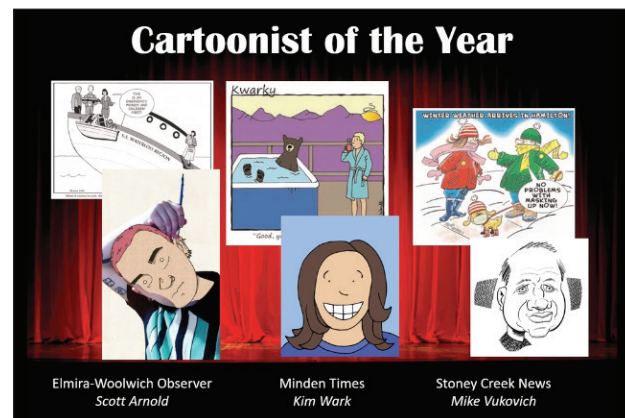
Darren Lum's photo of Kim Switzer, showing the inside of the igloo she built in her backyard in Carnarvon, won second place in the best feature photo competition. /DARREN LUM Staff

Cartoonist Kim Wark, who creates Kwarky for the *Minden Times*, was nominated for the Cartoonist of the Year award. / Screenshot from OCNA 2021 BNC awards

third place in the health and wellness category.

The paper also received an honourable mention for Welcome to Haliburton County 2021 in the Best Vertical Product category.

To view the award results booklet, which includes judging commentary, visit www.ocna.org/2021-bnc-awards-booklet.



Staff

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HHHS relying on agency staff to fill gaps

from page 1

on agency nursing staff and the Health Force Ontario and ED Locum program that provides support for hospitals across the province facing physician shortages to fill gaps.

"Since first announcing the impact of staffing shortages on HHHS in November 2021, the organization has been hard at work to keep both emergency departments open, while exploring options and alternatives," reads the press release. Those options and alternatives include accessing provincial programs to fund recruitment of internationally-educated nurses and nursing students, and working with Ontario Health to identify other recruitment strategies; engaging in virtual career fairs to attract nursing students and new graduates; enhancing the organization's social media presence; hiring a dedicated recruiter to work on other recruitment activities; meeting with local municipal leaders to identify possible collaborations and ways to support recruitment and current staff/physician retention; collaborating with the Haliburton County physician recruitment co-ordinator and focusing on retention by supporting education opportunities for current staff.

"The fact that both emergency departments have remained open so far is a testament to the incredible dedication and commitment shown by our local teams, as well as the staffing support we have received from agency nursing staff and HealthForce Ontario emergency department locum program physicians," said Plummer. "Though this is a very challenging situation to manage, HHHS will remain focused on our mandate of delivering essential, high-quality health services to the residents, cottagers, and visitors of Haliburton County and the surrounding area."

Plummer said HHHS will continue to communicate with

the community directly about the staffing situation in the emergency departments.

COVID-19 outbreak declared at Haliburton Hospital

On April 28, the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit declared a COVID-19 outbreak in the in-patient department of the Haliburton Hospital, where three asymptomatic confirmed patient cases were identified.

"As a result of the outbreak, all in-patient department patients have been isolated," reads a press release from HHHS. "The department is also now closed to any further admissions, and visitors are limited to only those receiving end-of-life care. Volunteers are restricted from entering the in-patient department at this time."

While mandatory masking, vaccination, regular surveillance testing and active screening has been maintained in all patient care areas, enhanced cleaning and staff monitoring for symptoms will now be conducted as well.

"We know that COVID-19 is still circulating in our community," said Plummer. "HHHS will continue to put the health and safety of our patients, residents, and staff first, through our rigorous infection prevention and control measures."

Services in the emergency department remain unaffected by this outbreak and community members in need of emergency care should not hesitate to seek assistance.

HHHS has also been in contact with neighbouring partner hospitals, including Peterborough Regional Health Centre and Ross Memorial Hospital, in case an admission is needed to an in-patient department.

MH council passes budget

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

The following are brief reports from a Minden Hills council meeting held virtually on April 28.

While members of the public did not attend a public meeting on the 2022 budget held April 28, one resident expressed written concerns after tuning in to the April 20 fourth draft budget meeting discussion.

“Early in the meeting it was apparent that the meeting was going to be rushed with very little thought given to the most important part of the budget deliberations,” wrote Tammy McKelvey in a letter received as written correspondence during the public meeting. “Given this lack of attention, I feel compelled to express my extreme disappointment.”

McKelvey questioned whether budget savings for wages and benefits due to vacancies in the township’s full-time staffing complement were being considered, if staff had considered selling fire department vehicles parked outside the fire hall to use proceeds for capital purchases, if a \$50,000 grant contribution to the boardwalk would be enough to repair the surface, and wanted council’s assurance that cemeteries would be maintained properly.

“As proposed, the budget results in a 5.5 per cent increase to the taxpayers this year, but more of an issue is the long term borrowing and full cost staffing complement increase proposed which sets up the next council and the taxpayers with a nine per cent increase without leaving the gate in 2023,” wrote McKelvey.

She also questioned the amount of debenture and internal borrowing proposed, her primary concerns being the \$300,000 debenture for the arena snack bar financed over a period of 25 years for an asset with a life expectancy of 15 years, and the \$784,000 debenture for the conversion of surface treated roads to gravel.

“It is clear that the township is arena poor and the resulting lack of municipal levy going to capital projects is not sustainable,” she wrote. “While I hate to see a levy increase of 5.5 per cent, I believe you have operational savings that could bring that down. I would propose that those savings be put towards capital in order to save the long term borrowing costs.”

She questioned if councillors had information available on reserve balances at the end of 2021 and proposed year end in 2022, and information on the 2021 year-end surplus.

Councillor Bob Carter reiterated that he had concerns about putting into debenture things that were operational costs, but said the rebuilding of the well-travelled Scotch Line and Bobcaygeon Roads would be substantial rather than just

“

The management team is aware of the challenges and pressures that the municipality is facing, and the need for a fiscally responsible budget now and in the years to come.

— **TRISHA MCKIBBIN, CAO/CLERK**

”

patching and paving, so he could be “persuaded” on the debenture for that. He acknowledged that the director of finance had been with the township for just a few weeks, and that the prior budgeting process was “opaque,” with so much data, it was “virtually impossible” for anyone to understand it, and he appreciated that the township’s process would change moving forward.

He said there still needs to be discussion about reserves, that could result in changes to the 2023 budget.

“Given all of that and looking at our situation, I think that 5.5 per cent, although it’s probably higher than people would like, is probably a reasonable number and we have to just ensure we’re going to work hard to be able to get real clarity in a totally different budgeting process, which I know the CAO and director of finance fully support, so we have a lot of clarity going into next year and we can get things back under total control in a way that is easy to communicate to people,” said Carter.

He said he understood some of the comments that had been made but fully supported the numbers to go forward.

Councillor Pam Sayne reiterated that she was not comfortable with the \$300,000 debenture for the arena snack bar and so did not support the budget “as it is,” but also acknowledged staff needed approval of the budget to get work done.

CAO/clerk Trisha McKibbin said the budget process had started in October 2021 with the goal of passing the budget early in 2022 but that the timing of the process had had to be adjusted.

“The management team is aware of the challenges and

pressures that the municipality is facing, and the need for a fiscally responsible budget now and in the years to come,” she said.

The budget was passed with a 5.5 per cent levy increase representing a 1.5 per cent increase over the third draft budget. The total levy to be raised through taxation and lieu payments is \$9,719,485. Sayne opposed, and Councillor Jennifer Hughey was absent.

Arena memorial seat plaques to be installed

Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell asked Craig Belfry, community services director, when memorial plaques purchased by community members as a fundraising initiative would be installed on seats in the arena.

“Lots of people are saying they purchased them, you know, close to a year ago and they’re still not ... do you think that will be something come fall when we reopen for ice purposes that they will be in place or do you have any idea?,” asked Schell.

Belfry said it was his intention to have all the plaques purchased and in place for the fall season.

“We need to put them in over the summer when there’s no ice so the glue can adhere to the seats,” he said.

Devolin asked staff for an update on fundraising initiatives to be brought to council at a later time.

Minden Hills fire chief moves on

Minden Hills deputy fire chief Shain Duda reported the March 2022 fire summary information, in place of the township’s usual report from fire chief Nelson Johnson.

“Chief Johnson has taken a position with the City of Yellowknife and his last day with the township was April 14,” said Trisha McKibbin in response to a question last week from the *Times* about Johnson’s absence from recent council meetings.

In Jan. 2020, Johnson had replaced Mike Bekking, who had been in the chief’s chair since former fire chief Doug Schell resigned from the position in the fall of 2017.

New director of public works introduced

Mike Timmins was introduced as the township’s new director of public works.

Timmins replaces acting director of public works Tara Stephen, who announced her departure at a March 10 council meeting.

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted virtually via web conference meetings, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

May 12 – Regular Council Meeting

May 26 – Regular Council Meeting

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting, please download by visiting our website at www.mindenhills.ca/council/. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

ARE YOU ON THE VOTERS' LIST FOR THE 2022 MUNICIPAL AND SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS?

Township of Minden Hills residents can find out whether they're on the voters' list for the upcoming municipal and school board elections at voterlookup.ca. Voterlookup.ca is an online service used to collect and confirm information that will be used in the preparation of the final Voters' Lists across Ontario. You can also change your school support for electoral purposes and add names to your property address. If you do not have access to the internet, please visit the Administration Office, Clerks Department, 7 Milne St., Minden. If you need support, please call 1-866-296-6722.



HHW EVENT DAYS

Minden Hills, Algonquin Highlands, Dysart et al and Highlands East have partnered to provide multiple household hazardous waste collection days throughout the County. Visit mindenhills.ca/landfill for a full list of dates, and items that will be accepted.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

Emergency Preparedness week “Be Ready For Anything!” is here! Are you prepared? Visit our website for fun family activities, information on keeping your pets safe during an emergency and information on what you need to do to be prepared in the event of an emergency. For more information contact the Fire Prevention Officer at 705-286-1202

Goat power for a healthy habitat

by VIVIAN COLLINGS
Times Staff

Barnum Creek Nature Reserve is going with green power in a big way this summer with six healthy four-legged eaters. Relatives Juniper, Maple, Apple, Pear, Cedar, and Walnut (Wally) will be joining the landscape in July.

Haliburton Highlands Land Trust's new initiative, Goats at Work: Natural Conservation in Action, is a pilot-project that will bring these six furry family members from Killara Station in Gelert to Barnum Creek to clear one hectare of land ecologically in replacement of the reserve's tractor.

Board director at Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT), Sheila Ziman, said that cleared areas are essential to providing a thriving ecosystem.

"Open areas are limited in Haliburton County, however, they are very important in providing habitat for those species that like to bask in the sun and forage and nest in fields," Ziman said in an April 26 press release. "Haliburton Highlands Land Trust is committed to keeping this area open to provide habitat for eastern milkshakes and monarch butterflies."

Ziman said that both of these at-risk species have been well-documented at Barnum Creek. Keeping 27 hectares of land clear for these species at the reserve is a top priority, especially if it can be done in an ecological way.

"If we don't keep that field clear, then the surrounding forest will grow, and we will lose that open area completely," Ziman said.

The initiative is made possible through a \$4,000 grant from Haliburton County



Walnut, or "Wally," is deep in thought at his home at Killara Station located in Gelert before he and five of his relatives arrive at Barnum Creek Nature Reserve in Haliburton for three weeks of hard work in July to clear one hectare of open area. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Development Corporation's Local Initiatives Program, which provides funding to local groups who plan to launch new initiatives to help strengthen the community.

Heather Reid, program and operations coordinator at Haliburton County Development Corporation, said that HHLT's Goats at Work initiative is "a novel concept in terms

of community involvement. Their new idea to help our environment as well as support two other local businesses was what helped us decide that they should receive funding."

The goats will be provided by Susan Peel, owner of Killara Station in Lochlin, and they will be enclosed by portable solar-powered electric fencing provided by The Great

Haliburton Feed Company and housed in a horse trailer at night to avoid predators.

"Goats eat everything, and we are confident that they will clear the area as well as a mechanical mower, while providing co-benefits of fertilizing the land and reducing use of fossil fuels," Peel said.

Inventory of all woody plants within the hectare of land will be conducted by Paul Heaven of Glendale Ecological Services before the goats take up residence.

"He will assess the effectiveness of the goats at removing woody plants by determining the percentage consumed and the average height of any woody plants left," Ziman said.

At this time, whether or not goat clearing is more cost-effective than a mechanical mower is unclear. This will be dependent on how long the goats need to stay in the area to clear it, and what percentage of the vegetation is eaten.

If the initiative is successful, HHLT hopes to use goats to clear other areas in the future as well as inspire others to do the same.

HHLT is planning a public educational event "for families and kids to come look at the goats at the reserve and learn about the importance of keeping the area clear in an environmentally-friendly way. It will be lots of fun," said Ziman.

Although some in the herd are described as being "a bunch of hams" by Peel, they will undoubtedly put their best hoof forward when put to work at Barnum Creek.

Dates will be scheduled early this summer on the HHLT website, www.haliburtonlandtrust.ca/. For more information about their Goats at Work initiative, contact Sheila Ziman sheilaziman@gmail.com.



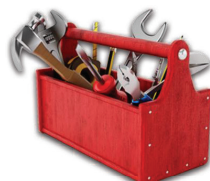
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Proposal calls for MH Cultural Centre to be managed by foundation board

by **STEPHEN PETRICK**
Special to the Times

Supporters of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre are proposing a new governance model for the centre, which would have its foundation board overseeing day-to-day management instead of municipal staff.

The proposal was delivered during a delegation at the April 28 Minden Hills council meeting, held virtually, and it follows a period in which the town's handling of the centre has come under scrutiny.

The centre has been without a curator since late February when Laurie Carmount stopped working there. City officials haven't said whether her leaving was voluntary or a dismissal, but, regardless, the news has led to renewed calls for the municipality to better manage the much loved, taxpayer-funded centre, which is known for drawing tourists and being a source of community pride.

The centre includes the Agnes Jamieson Gallery, Minden Hills Museum and Heritage Village and Nature's Place.

While the delegation had the potential to make for a tense meeting – there's clear friction between the centre's most ardent supporters and town officials – council accepted the delegation and Mayor Brent Devolin called for town staff to file a report with their thoughts on the proposal. That report would likely be delivered at council's May 26 meeting.

"What you've presented is a bit outside of the box, from my perspective and knowledge," Devolin said. "Having said that, I'm not necessarily against those sorts of things."



The Minden Hills Cultural Centre, located at 176 Bobcaygeon Road. /Submitted photo

The delegation was led by Jack Brezina, who called the 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. facility a community "gem" and alluded to a history of tension over how the centre has been governed.

"Through the years the centre has not been without its troubled times, but each time, to its credit, the guiding beliefs underpinning the centre and the determination of the community and centre staff, it emerged to carry on. The most recent turmoil has prompted the

reinvigoration of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre Foundation and the community, in general, to rush to the centre's defence."

The Minden Hills Cultural Centre board – currently made up of president Neil Briggs, secretary David Rea, directors Susan Murray, Sue Tiffin, Emily Stonehouse and (non-voting advisory committee representative) Mary Hamilton – has traditionally been in charge of fundraising for the centre, but not managing day-to-day operations.

Currently, the centre's management falls under the portfolio of Minden Hills community services director Craig Belfry, who then reports to chief administrative officer Trisha McKibbin.

A slideshow delivered to council suggested that having the foundation oversee staff is not unique and falls within laws that dictate how museums in Ontario should be governed.

The proposed new structure would be similar to systems governing the Haliburton County Public Library or the Rails End Gallery and Arts Centre in Dysart et al.

"This model is a win-win," said Briggs in a speech that followed Brezina's talk. He said it would reduce the responsibilities of municipal staff, plus make the centre eligible for provincial and federal funding.

"We don't believe the status quo is viable," Briggs added.

The proposal seemed aimed at putting pressure on Devolin. The slideshow included a page which referenced a quote attributed to Devolin in local media, during his most recent campaign for mayor.

It quoted Devolin saying "Minden Hills council should re-engage many of the original stakeholders" associated with the centre and that he was "confident that collectively we can continue to grow the vision that Minden Hills Cultural Centre represents in our town."

Devolin watched the April 28 presentation calmly, with little expression. But, at the end, he said, "this has the potential for a good start and dialogue." He offered to Briggs and Brezina that "the spirit of where you want to go is not necessarily in conflict with council."



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Hats in the ring

FINALLY, THE time is here, you'll soon know whether or not your neighbour was right about so-and-so running for mayor. The nomination period for October's municipal elections opened on Monday, and some keen residents will be refreshing the unofficial list of candidates on the township websites as frequently as others check Instagram. Between now and Aug. 19 – nomination day - at 2 p.m., hopeful candidates will be filing their papers, announcing their official intention to run in the 2022 municipal and school board elections to be held on Oct. 24.

Those who opt to run should be applauded.

While being a municipal politician in Haliburton County is a part-time job, the most involved councillors find they spend quite a bit of time attending council and committee meetings, listening and responding to constituent concerns, and digging deeper to learn more about policy and process or what is happening elsewhere that might be of benefit to us here. Especially now that people are more connected easily through technology, it's not unlikely that councillors have their phones with them 24/7, getting phone calls during dinner, texts during downtime and messages about landfill hours and fire bans on the weekends. And those are the relatively pleasant messages. Being a councillor can be thankless at times, but the work they do is vital – often having a greater impact on our daily lives than some decisions made at the provincial or federal level.

Those throwing their hats in the ring – one would hope – are running because they want to make a difference. They know the impact they can have in the community. They are passionate about the issues. Perhaps they think they can do better than those

who came before them. Ideally, they care strongly about the environment. Hopefully they aren't running on a grudge, or for a single issue – because the role involves much more than any one single issue – the work and understanding required of the people holding the position is much more complex.

And now if the rest of us haven't been following as closely as we could have, it's time to start reading, listening, and learning so we can make the best decision of the choices we are offered.

That council meetings are livestreamed now make them more accessible to those who can't attend in person during daytime working hours. Some meetings are available for viewing after they've been broadcast. If you haven't tuned in yet to see what's happening around the virtual table, now's a good time to switch out an evening of Netflix for a night of checking in on who is currently representing our towns, what the issues are and how they're discussed. Visit the Township of Algonquin Highlands, Township of Minden Hills or County of Haliburton on YouTube to access past (or upcoming) meetings.

Read stories in your local papers, talk with the candidates (not in the produce section if you can help it), attend upcoming candidates' meetings, ask questions.

There will be some big shoes, or seats, to fill in this upcoming election, with longtime leaders stepping down and hot topics – housing, climate change, costs of inflation, healthcare, community culture, waste management, lake health - ongoing. Thank those who are running as they prepare to serve the community, and take the time to prepare yourself to choose the best person for the job.

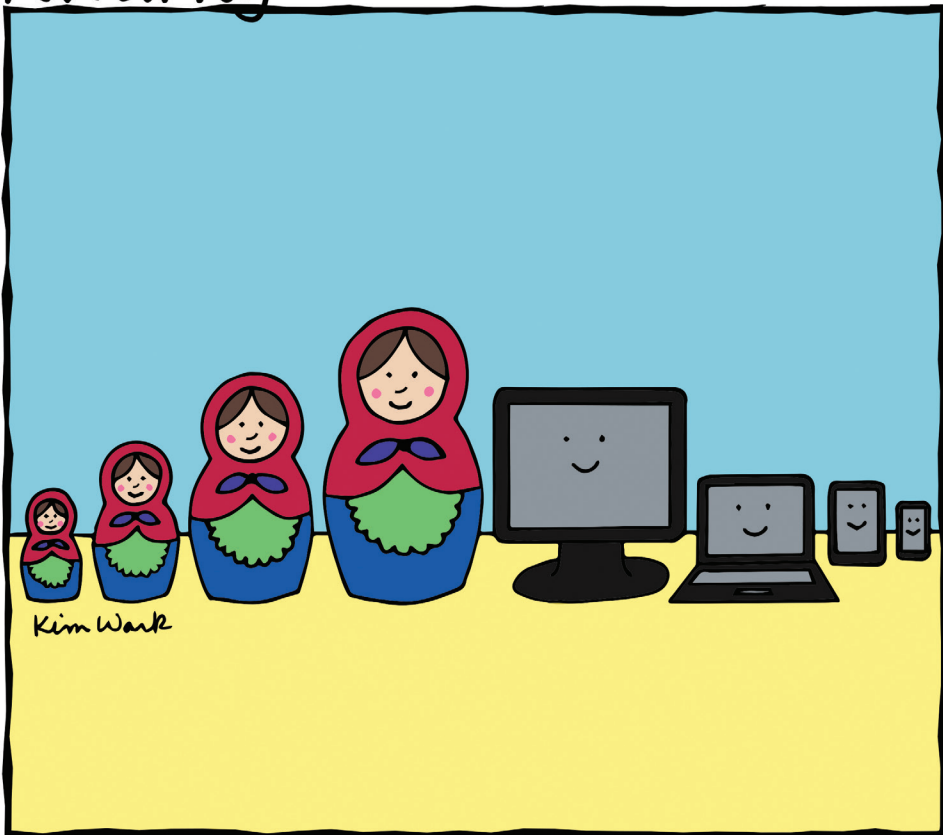


SUE TIFFIN
Editor

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Kwarky



Fishing thermometers

LAST MONTH I bought myself a fishing thermometer. Full disclosure: I am not proud of this.

But there comes a time in every angler's life when he or she has run out of fun and practical fishing-related things to sneak into the house. Once that time arrives, all that is left to buy is a good fishing thermometer. Which is not so bad if you know how to use them.

Many anglers buy fishing thermometers under the mistaken impression that you only use them to prove to your spouse that you have a bad case of fishing fever. Of course, that's ridiculous. You can do that with a hot cup of tea and a normal thermometer.

The only thing a fishing thermometer really allows you to do is measure water temperatures at various depths for as far down as you can lower it on a cord. This information allows you to determine the depth which has the preferred temperatures for the fish you are targeting, so you can focus your efforts there.

Come to think of it, that's not all a fishing thermometer does.

If you have a fishing thermometer you can use it to accurately determine how long you would last in the water if you wore your leakiest set of waders. And also, if your fertility would be affected.

The importance of either cannot be underestimated.

Mostly, however, I like carrying around my fishing thermometer because it makes me feel like I am taking a more scientific approach towards fishing. And, since they are so discrete, other anglers won't make as much fun of me as they did that time I wore my white lab coat and carried a Bunsen burner.

Admittedly, you could find the surface water temperature, fish and even the thermocline with almost any modern fish finder – and I own one of those too. But fishing electronics can break down or run out of power. And they don't tell you temperatures below surface level. Plus they are often not portable enough to carry into backwoods lakes.

A fishing thermometer is lightweight and fits in your front pocket, which come in handy on a canoe trip. Plus, the only thing that can render one useless is forgetting your reading glasses at home – or on top of your head.

I suppose, you are wondering what makes a fishing thermometer different from the ones you already have at home. Primarily, it is where you put them. But also, with a fishing thermometer, you never have to mutter, "Say ahhh" before dropping it into the lake. Oh, and fishing thermometers are enclosed in a sturdier case too, a quality that would be more reassuring on your home thermometer too – depending on where the reading is being taken from.

In any case, I plan to use my fishing thermometer frequently this year, especially in backwoods lakes. I don't expect this to increase my catch a lot. But I imagine using one will keep me more informed about what water depths the fish prefer throughout the season. Trout, of course, are a cold-water species. So, if I can determine where the cold water is I will be more efficient with my time on the water and know I am on the right track. Then, I'll be able to fish calmly, knowing full well I am in the zone.

On the other hand, when my thermometer shows me I wasted time where water temperatures are too high, I imagine I'll be seeing red.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Here come the little guys

THEY ARE on their way! You should be spotting them any day now. The last time I checked they were crossing Lake Erie and some areas of southern Ontario were reporting sightings.

The arrival of the much-admired ruby-throated hummingbirds will complete another miracle of nature. They have been flying for days to get here, traveling thousands of kilometres from their wintering grounds in Mexico and Central America.

Many have had to cross the Gulf of Mexico to get here – an 800-kilometre non-stop flight that takes 20 hours. Then they have to navigate roughly 1,800 kilometres over the eastern United States before crossing Lake Erie into Canada.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock

How something so tiny and so delicate can travel such incredible distances through winds, storms and fluctuating temperatures truly is a miracle. The average ruby-throated hummingbird is a mere nine centimetres long and weighs three grams, the weight of about three standard paper clips.

They might be tiny, but can be ferocious. Males use their needle-like bills to stab other males in fights for mates. Fights look like fencing, with the birds feinting, parrying and stabbing, sometimes knocking an opponent off its perch.

The Aztecs admired the beauty of these little birds but also saw them as bloodthirsty warriors. Huitzilopochtli, their god of war, was a hummingbird.

The hummingbirds' unique bills also allow them to reach deep into tubular flowers to extract nectar. They need a lot of nectar to produce the energy needed for long migrations.

They need to eat every 10 or 15 minutes to fuel their supercharged little engines and consume as much as 12 times their body weight in nectar every day. To do all that feeding they visit hundreds of flowers every day.

During flight, a hummingbird's wings flap up to 80 times a second, making them just a blur to the human eye. Those lightning speed wing flaps allow the birds to fly like helicopters, even upside down, often hovering in one place as they poke a bloom for nectar.

Hummingbirds are the only birds that can hover or fly backwards. However, they are not good on their feet. They can't hop or walk very well because their legs are short and weak.

Their lifespan is three to five years, which seems long considering the extreme weather conditions they face during migrations, plus the predators and human-made obstacles that all birds face.

Hummers are great little birds to have around our places. They pollinate a wide range of flowering plants, carrying pollen on their beaks and feathers from one plant to another.

They are easily attracted to garden flowers and feeders. They favour the colour red and some people hang red ribbons on feeders, trees and other objects to ensure they come.

They will go to any bright colour but one theory is that they are partial to red because red flowers are where they find the most nectar.

All they need to make your place a favourite place is a nectar feeder, water source and places where they can perch when needed. Expert bird watchers say hummers are loyal and will return to a place every year if it has all the things they need.

They also advise to keep feeders well-spaced because hummers are territorial.

Nectar for feeders is basically sugar water – one part sugar to four parts water. Many people add red dye as an attractant, but the experts advise against this.

Red dye No.40 is known to cause cancerous tumours in rats and mice. It is one of the most common colour additives and is found in many foods and beverages, notably energy and sports drinks.

There have been claims that this dye impairs hummingbird reproduction and causes skin and bill tumours. There is no definitive proof that red dye is harmful to hummers, but also no proof that it does not harm them.

Anyone wanting to be better safe than sorry can simply use a non-coloured mixture of sugar and water and tie red ribbons to the feeders and elsewhere.

Just a little more sunshine and warmth and we'll all be seeing them at our feeders. It will be great to have them back.



Well, hello there.

A black-capped chickadee looks in the window at the human looking out at it. /SUE TIFFIN Staff

Beans, beans...

WHEN I was a kid, I thought that canned baked beans were a vegetable. I've come a long way. Beans are seeds from the Fabaceae family of flowering plants. They are classified as legumes. Beans contain amino acids. These protein building blocks are used by the body to heal and make new tissues such as bone, muscle, blood, hair and skin. Like any food, the less processed they are, the better the nutritional value. So, not only are canned baked beans not a vegetable, they are not the best food choice when it comes to beans.

For non-meat eating folks like me, beans are an important part of our diet. A few weeks ago I realized that I had gotten away from preparing meals that included beans so now I have a routine. On Sunday evenings a beep from my phone reminds me to soak some beans. Every week, I try a different kind. There are so many to choose from, such as:

- black beans
- kidney beans
- navy beans
- pinto beans
- chickpeas

Once I've got the beans soaking, the process is underway. I used to think it was easier to open a can when I wanted beans.

It still is and I still do that sometimes when it's a last minute decision to have beans for a meal. I don't use baked beans any more though. Thankfully, there are several low-salt options for canned beans. Still, planning ahead has its benefits. First of all, it is much less expensive to buy a bag of dried beans than it is to buy a can of beans. Second, there is less waste. I decide how much or how little I want to prepare. Lastly, there is no extra salt added when it comes to dried beans.

Regardless of how they are prepared and consumed, the health benefits are numerous. In addition to providing a meat alternative for protein, consuming beans is good for heart health, cancer risk reduction, diabetes prevention and my personal favourite, appetite control (they fill you up more than other foods).

Most of us remember that childhood chant "...beans, beans, are good for the heart...". I guess it's true. Now, go off and get yourself some beans for your next meal! Something to think about.

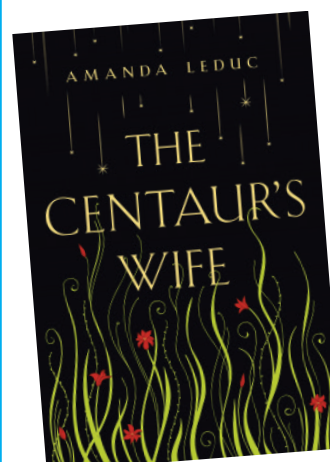
Laurie Sweig is a certified personal fitness trainer and spinning instructor. She owns and operates The Point for Fitness. She can be reached at laurie@thepointforfitness.com.



LAURIE SWEIG

Practical Fitness

HCPL's Book of the Month - May



Asleep after the birth of her children, Heather is awoken by the sound of the city being destroyed by meteors. Her family is among only a few survivors.

But the forbidden green mountain that looms over the city has been spared. Heather remembers the creatures who lived there from long ago.

Estajfan, a centaur born of sorrow and love, and his two siblings, marooned between two worlds. Struggling to survive, Heather looks to the mountain, drawn by love, fear, and the desire for rescue. She is torn apart by knowledge of what unleashed the meteor shower, and what's coming for the survivors once this great green earth finds the usefulness of human life wanting.

Both devastating and redemptive, Amanda Leduc's fable for uncertain times reminds us that the most important things in life aren't things at all, but the people we want by our side at the end of the world. Check out this

Evergreen nominee from Haliburton County Public Library today.

Youth vaping rates ‘quite alarming’: health unit

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

Youth vaping – that is, use of vaping products by those under 19 years of age - was declared an epidemic in Dec. 2018 by the U.S. Surgeon General.

“Vaping is our predominant concern right now,” Robert Hewitt, tobacco control officer with the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit told the board in an April 21 meeting.

Hewitt said electronic cigarettes became available in 2004, and vaping rates have increased in the last four years. The current past 30 day use rate is 15 per cent for 15-to-19-year-olds, said Hewitt, “which is quite alarming.”

He said from speaking to kids at high schools, there is no challenge to obtain electronic cigarettes, and that complaints of underage sales are increasing year over year. In 2019, there were zero complaints of sales of vaping products to those under 19, while in 2022 there have been four complaints so far.

“The numbers are very minimal but I want to stress that it’s very unusual and rare for a person to pick up the phone and complain to us about this concern,” said Hewitt. “Even

though the numbers are small, it’s sort of the tip of the iceberg of what’s really going on out there.”

Hewitt said there are different rules for tobacco and vapour product vendors. Tobacco vendors convicted twice within a five-year period for selling to underage people can lose the right to sell tobacco for six months, but there’s no such provision in the legislation for vapour product vendors, who often face a monetary fine instead.

In schools throughout the region, in 2021, 117 warning letters were issued for students vaping on school property. As of March 29 this year, 30 warning letters have been issued, and three charges for repeat offenders in 2022.

“Students vaping in the school washrooms is the most common reason for a witness report to be submitted,” said Hewitt.

He said vendor inspections show a significant increase in non-compliance and that warnings and charges “have gone up dramatically.”

While in 2018, 742 inspections were conducted, 39 charges issued, and 49 warnings issued. In 2022, there were 267 inspections (significantly fewer due to the health unit’s focus on pandemic issues), 16 charges issued but 270 warnings issued.

Hewitt said there was a need to focus on gaining compliance, and that test shopping inspections will begin in June. Additionally, he said Health Canada is currently looking at reviewing the tobacco vaping products act, a federal legislation, to limit the number of flavours available, as kids have become addicted based on that. Health Canada “missed the boat,” he said, when the vaping devices first became available as they went highly unregulated the first few years after their introduction, allowing vaping companies to advertise to youth.

“The biggest challenge we face is that the vaping products contain nicotine, nicotine is the most addictive substance on the planet,” he said. “Once they try it, we know from the studies that were done in regards to tobacco, to become addicted to smoking, tobacco companies had it down to a point that, two puffs off your first cigarette started developing the chemical pathways in your brain to the part called the pleasure centre that made you want to have it again.”

Dysart et al Mayor Andrea Roberts said she and her husband were shocked on a recent vacation to see how many people were vaping, noting youth were seeing adults normalize it.

John Henderson, vice-chair of the board,

said he remembered learning during one of his first health unit board meetings of the effects of vaping on the lungs, even in a young, star athlete, and asked if students were aware of these outcomes through an education program.

Hewitt said the challenge with vaping products is that longterm studies are not available. While tobacco will kill one of every two people, he said, longterm effects are not yet known about vaping products, though a chemical additive responsible for deaths a few years ago has been removed. Presentations in schools are in high demand, he said, in order to address issues of smoking in washrooms. He said in the past two months, of the students vaping on school property, about 20 per cent of them were vaping cannabis.

Hewitt said the health unit does accept reporting complaints from both the public or another vendor concerned about their counterparts not complying with the law. He encouraged people to reach out, anonymous complaints are accepted, and he or Lorne Jordan, tobacco control officer for Northumberland County, will look into each of the complaints. The number to call is 1-866-888-4577.

Chamber executive director welcomes challenge

by **DARREN LUM**
Times Staff

The new Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce’s executive director Robert Gaudette is excited at the opportunity to help local businesses move forward.

“I think it’s an interesting time to come in because I think everybody’s ready to kind of build some momentum and try and find [answers to] what does the world return to? What does business as usual become? I’m excited to be part of that,” he said.

The long-time resident of Haliburton County offers the chamber a broad range of skills, with his most recent being in the labour force training and workforce development sectors.

Gaudette said he has a creative professional background, which includes being an entrepreneur in the technology industry and experience with a non-profit. The chamber position enables him to blend the skills he learned from these industries.

“Where are the areas for innovation that the membership wants, or that we can educate the membership about that maybe hasn’t been brought to this community before? [I] want to connect people. There’s a lot of funding and modernization programming coming from the government in terms of digital main street, upscale local labour, things like that,” he said. “I’m really plugged into that from my previous role working in skills development for the John Howard Society and then prior to that Dixon Hall [Neighbourhood Services] ... I think I want to be able to provide those resources and be able to break it down. Save business owners a lot of time and get past the jargon. You know, if you want to access things like that, you don’t want to read through a 20-page document on a proposal breakdown,



The Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce new executive director Robert Gaudette. Submitted by the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce.

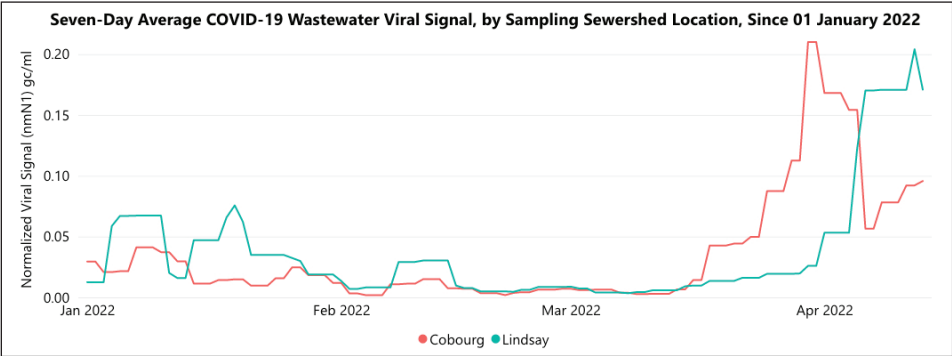
and I think I can bring that and fill that gap,” he said. “That’s what excites me.” Among the questions he wants to answer is how COVID-19 has changed what business need, which can be from either a regional or local context, specific to Haliburton County.

From the chamber press release, he said, “Local business success is key to a healthy community. Business owners create opportunity, not only for themselves but also for others.”

COVID-19 Lab Confirmed Cases, Hospitalizations, and Deaths by Municipality, Since 01 January 2022								
County	Municipality	Active cases (current)	2022 Total cases	2022 Case rate per 100,000 population	Non-outbreak cases (cumulative)	Outbreak cases (cumulative)	Hospitalizations (cumulative)	Deaths (cumulative)
Haliburton	Algonquin Highlands	0	23	908.7	23	0	1	0
	Dysart et al	8	131	1,920.8	110	21	4	1
	Highlands East	3	38	1,080.5	34	4	0	0
	Minden Hills	1	92	1,390.4	77	15	1	0
Kawartha Lakes	Kawartha Lakes	105	2,577	3,167.1	1,675	902	59	24
Northumberland	Alnwick/Haldimand	3	203	2,580.7	183	20	5	2
Northumberland	Brighton	10	291	2,299.5	253	38	12	3
Northumberland	Cobourg	20	561	2,751.9	366	195	10	2
Northumberland	Cramahe	2	156	2,416.0	139	17	8	2
Northumberland	Hamilton Township	3	216	1,763.4	195	21	4	0
Northumberland	Port Hope	10	333	1,913.2	245	88	6	2
Northumberland	Trent Hills	18	498	3,728.4	273	225	12	4
Total HKPRDHU		183	5,119	2,676.9	3,573	1,546	122	40

Health unit reporting 18 outbreaks throughout region

Six new lab-confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Haliburton County were reported in the May 2 update from the Haliburton, Kawartha, Pine Ridge District health unit. Eighteen outbreaks are currently in progress, including one at the in-patient unit of the Haliburton Hospital, and one at the Gardens of Haliburton retirement home in Haliburton. The health unit reminds the public that data seen here only reflects positive results of those with access, which is limited, to PCR testing. / Screenshot from hkpr.on.ca.



Info from the Ontario Wastewater Surveillance Initiative Data and Vizualization Hub shows the seven-day average COVID-19 wastewater viral signal, by sampling sewershed locations in Cobourg and Lindsay, since Jan. 1 of this year. The wastewater program analyses virus shedding among residents to estimate the burden of COVID-19 in the community, and serves as a secondary indicator for retrospective and current COVID-19 prevalence in the community. /May 2 screenshot from www.hkpr.on.ca

PROVINCIAL ELECTION



Progressive Conservative
Party candidate Laurie Scott



New Democratic Party
candidate Barbara Doyle



Green Party of Ontario's
candidate Tom Regina



Ontario Liberal Party
candidate Don McBey



Ontario Party candidate
Dr. Kerstin Kelly

MPP Laurie Scott up for re-election in June election

by **STEPHEN PETRICK**
Special to the Times

It's party time!

Ontario Premier Doug Ford is expected to visit the lieutenant-governor any day now and ask for an election to be called, meaning Ontarians will soon go to the polls to choose a new government. The expected date of the election is Thursday, June 2.

With the anticipation building, political parties are getting campaigns ready by pumping out platforms and press releases. Candidate lawn signs will start to sprinkle around the Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock electoral region, where a healthy field of candidates are expected to compete for the role as the riding's Member of Provincial Parliament; even if recent political history foretells another landslide.

The Progressive Conservative Party candidate is the long-time incumbent, Laurie Scott. Scott, a Kinmount native, is looking for her fourth consecutive victory, as she won the local vote in 2011, 2014 and 2018. She also represented the riding between 2003 and 2009.

Her 2018 victory was by the widest margin, as she earned 32,406 votes, to more than double her nearest competitor, the NDP's Zac Miller, who earned 15,142 votes.

As part of Ford's government, Scott spent part of the past term as Minister of Labour and then Minister of Infrastructure, before being demoted to a backbencher in 2021.

Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock is traditionally a safe riding for provincial Conservatives. The only time the riding was held by another party this century was between 2009 and 2011 after Liberal Rick Johnson beat Progressive Conservative candidate John Tory, an outsider or "parachute" candidate, who was then leader of the party and thought he could win a by-election in the riding, as a quick method to have a seat in the Ontario Legislature.

Anything other than a landslide victory for Scott would be a surprise, but five other candidates have put their name forward to give voters some choice.

The Liberals are countering with Don McBey, who, according to his online bio, has built a career on medical, legal and community advocacy. He was recently the vice-chair of Ontario's Workplace Safety and Insurance Appeals Tribunal. In a media release, Liberal leader Steven Del Duca called McBey a "proven fighter."

McBey added, "after the last few disorienting years, our communities need a strong representative to empower our transition toward a post-pandemic recovery. I am committed to listening to your choices and challenges and advocating strongly on your behalf for better health care, schools, housing, and restored business and workplace predictability."

Barbara Doyle will represent the NDP on the ballot box. Doyle, a Lindsay native, was nominated by the party back in November.

She works at the Kawartha Lakes Museum and has been involved in local health care and anti-domestic violence initiatives.

"I am committed to standing up for local families to ensure that they have the services they need. I have fought to defend local public health care and I will keep fighting to expand it so people and families in our communities get the care they need where and when they need it," she said in a statement issued at the time of her nomination.

The announcement of the local Green Party candidate may have been music to the ears of many Haliburton Highlands Secondary School graduates.

Tom Regina, who was once head of music at the high school, is up for the Greens. Regina has lived in Haliburton Highlands for more than 30 years and was a founding member of the local Green Party constituency.

An online bio posed by the party says that Regina is "concerned about the divisive political culture that stands in the way of governance for the common good" and that "electoral reform, social equity and ecological wisdom are among the Green values that motivated Tom to run as a Green candidate."

There's also a new party in the mix, the Ontario Party, and it has a local candidate, Kerstin Kelly.

An online bio for Kelly shows that she's worked in a variety of fields, including aviation and veterinary services. She and her husband operated Crooked Lake Wilderness Lodge in Norwood, until the pandemic hit.

The Ontario Party is led by Derek Sloan, the former Conservative Member of Parliament for neighbouring Hastings-Lennox & Addington, whose often unpopular views – for example, he accused Canada's Chief Public Health Officer Theresa Tam of working for China – caused plenty of sensational headlines and drew scorn from local officials and those within his own party. The Ontario Party's slogan is "Freedom, Family and Faith."

Those who like none of the above-mentioned candidates have another choice. Grant Dewar is running in the riding for the None Of The Above Party, also known as NOTA.

Dewar is described by the party as a retired farmer. NOTA's website says that "voters need tools to better control how we nominate local candidates, formulate major party policies and elect people to represent us who will have to keep their promises or be held accountable, long before the next election." His photo was not available at press time.

To learn more about the candidates, visit the following websites:

Laurie Scott: hk1b.ontariopc.ca
Don McBey: donmcbey.ontarioliberal.ca
Barbara Doyle: barbaradoyle.ontariondp.ca/

Tom Regina: <https://gpo.ca/candidate/tom-regina/>

Kerstin Kelly: ontariopartyhkb.ca/
Grant Dewar: nota.ca/ontario/candidates/

Council information session encourages involvement

by **VIVIAN COLLINGS**
Times Staff

Dozens of committed citizens took the first step in leading the Highlands to a new future last week.

The importance of being involved in community council was highlighted at the So You Want to Run for Council information session for potential candidates on Tuesday, Apr. 26 at the Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 in Haliburton. With 20 people in attendance in person and 35 online, many new faces were present and eager to learn about the workings of municipal council and how they can be helpful in their community.

"[Council information sessions] like these are great because sometimes people think democracy ends with voting every four years,"

said Minden Hills Ward 2 Councillor Pam Sayne. "We need to get rid of that idea and get people more involved and aware of the roles and responsibilities of local council."

The hour-and-a-half long session was presented by Fred Dean, municipal coach, former Sudbury City solicitor, and facilitator for the Association of Municipalities of Ontario.

"Council represents the public. Members of council are out in the community bringing the concerns of people in the community to the council table," Dean said. "It's a wonderful place to be. Councils in any ten minutes can be really rewarding, sometimes frustrating, and great fun."

The information session began with a discussion about the role of local governments. This was followed by the principles of municipal government, roles and responsibilities of all members of council, and personal

considerations to take when contemplating a role in municipal council.

Both Sayne and Dysart et al Ward 4 Councillor John Smith said that the candidate session was informative even as experienced members.

"It is a good refresher on the profession, and the discussions give you a sense about what's on people's minds," Smith said.

Sayne, in her eighth year as a councillor in Minden Hills, said that she will likely run for a third term. Smith has not yet decided. The candidate nomination period began May 2 and ends Aug. 19 at 2 p.m.

During a question period at the end of the session, Dean was asked about what members of the public can do if they would like to help the community but not run for council.

"In terms of getting involved in the municipal structure, you can join some of the local

boards. There are also community groups that are active all the time. If you get yourself involved in those, you'll begin to see the workings of government that way," he said.

He urged anyone interested to contact their municipal clerk to find out about other specific ways to get involved in municipal government.

Voting day for the municipal elections of the Township of Minden Hills, Municipality of Dysart et al, the Township of Algonquin Highlands, and the Municipality of Highlands East takes place on Oct. 24 with advance voting beginning on Oct. 14.

If you missed the information session, you can find a link to the recording of the session here www.dysartetal.ca/en/municipal-government/2022-municipal-and-school-board-election.aspx.

Music by the Gull moves to Music Fridays at the Fairgrounds

by **SUE TIFFIN**
Editor

After 30 years, Music by the Gull is moving to a new home.

The popular summertime event, in which bands set up on Water Street in downtown Minden to play for crowds sitting along the sidewalks in lawn chairs brought from home, is heading up the road to the fairgrounds.

Music Fridays at the Fairgrounds will begin July 1 with a concert presented by Gord Kidd and Friends and is sure to start the weekly music series with a bang as Canada Day fireworks will end the evening. After that, concerts will take place every Friday night beginning at 7 p.m. and running until about 8:30 p.m., with start times changing for the evening light as the summer goes on.

Dan Bingham, who sits on the board that organizes the event, said the general consen-

sus from the group was to try the change this year, despite the break from tradition.

“The consensus from the group is that the bands all thought it was a pretty good idea, just because it gave them more flexibility and less of a hassle and less worry about rain and stuff like that,” said Bingham. “Some members of the Lions Club and some members of the committee were not as enthusiastic about moving it as some of us were, but the general idea is that we’ll try it up there this year, and if it doesn’t work, we can always go back.”

Bingham noted it can be difficult for the group to barricade the roads, hustle the bands in to play and then exit so the roads can re-open, and deal with exposure in case of rain. The event has not happened during the pandemic, and he noted, “it’s been two years since it was downtown, and if there was ever a time to try something new, now would be the time to do it.”

“I understand with tradition and all that,

but sometimes with new eyes - I classify myself as new eyes - sometimes it’s worth trying just because it’s the time,” he said. “Just because something has been there for 30 years doesn’t mean it always should be there. We’re trying to keep everyone’s feelings in consideration. We think the way we’re going to set it up, it’s going to be more beneficial for more people with less hassle.”

Bands will now play in the bandshell at the fairgrounds, with three areas of seating – options for blankets and lawn chairs in front, a semi-circle of picnic tables in the middle, or at the back of the crowd in cars if people prefer to listen from their vehicles with the windows down. The option allows for room to expand the space for the crowd, Bingham said, noting there are different options for different comfort levels of interaction during the ongoing pandemic.

“Understandably, I get the tradition and the ambience of being down by the Gull, but

people have to remember we’re all getting older, it’s a fair bit of work to get that set up and torn down in the timeframe the municipality gives them, and they haven’t got the bodies,” said Bingham. “This way, one of the key things is that the bands can go up on Friday whenever they feel like it, and set up in the bandshell and there’s no worry. There’s lots of hydro there, they can plug in whatever they need to, and they’re protected, so even in a slight drizzle they can still perform because people can still sit in their cars.”

The concert series begins July 1 and runs until Sept. 2. Signage at the fairgrounds and in the downtown area will help inform the community of the change.

“The general feeling was let’s try it there, we think it’s a good idea, we’re hoping the public will support it, and we think it will make it a little bit easier for people to access,” he said.



A return for Razzamataz

The Kif Kif sisters presenting The Returns Department was held on May 1 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion Theatre, the first Razzamataz Kids' Shows event since the onset of the pandemic in 2020. The performance offered kids and adults alike a combination of physical theatre, circus, visual arts, music and puppets. /Photo by Chad Ingram



Singing the blues

Guitar player Randy Brethour plays with the B&B Blues Band during the concert to announce the Road to Kitchener Bluesfest Youth Camp Contest at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavillion on Thursday, Apr. 28 in Haliburton. Organized by the Highlands Buckside Blues Society, the contest is open to 12 to 18 year-olds in the Haliburton Highlands. Contestants need to upload a performance YouTube video, no more than five minutes long, and send it to highlandsbbs@gmail.com. For more details, contact Rusty Rustenburg 705-464-1719. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

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CountyLife

Reading together: Book clubs connect friends over good reads

by SUE TIFFIN
Editor

Throughout the county, dozens of thriving book clubs – some of them public and open to members, some private and made up of longtime friends – bring people together for stimulating conversation and shared time together over a love of reading. Here, a few members of those clubs speak to what makes them so special:

The Next Chapter

Andrea Roberts, who in her role as mayor of Dysart sits on the Haliburton County Public Library board says she loves the library's book sets, which offer eight of the same title alongside a folder with book club questions and background information. The book sets are largely funded by the Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library and many offer print, audiobook, large print or e-versions of the same title.

The Next Chapter has been meeting since 2010, said Roberts.

"What it's done is solidify a friendship even better with those book club friends, because it puts you on a schedule and sets a time to meet," she said. They've even met virtually, with some members joining in while on vacation in Florida.

At the first book club, Roberts showed up with a blank journal, deciding to write the date, the participants in that meeting, and some points of discussion.

"It's become a bit of a running joke now, I'm the secretary and have to bring the book," she laughed. "It kind of keeps us on track to know who is next, because we do start to lose it a bit."

Now the book reminds Roberts of details like the time in 2012, when the question around the table was, "how did this win the Giller prize?" Once, the book was called *Before I Go to Sleep*, but one member mistakenly read *Before I Wake*. Later, the group started doing a rating out of five – before the group discussion, and after, in case the rating changes.

They meet six times a year, at around 7 p.m. at night, every other month.

"We talk, talk, talk, how are the kids, how was your trip, have a glass of wine – and then an hour later, we should talk about book club!" laughs Roberts. "It's always really interesting because often your opinion doesn't change, and lots of times it does. Maybe I didn't see that angle or that side."

Roberts said the group usually reads fiction. One member reads the end first if it's a mystery because she can't stand the suspense.

"When we're reading anything in our lives, it depends on where you're at in your own life – you could be just tired, or you're on holiday and you read it in three days, or that book appealed to you at a certain time. I find that part so interesting, it just depends on where you're at or how stressful life is in other ways, when you're reading a book."

Roberts said the time together offers a relaxing time for all
see **LIBRARY'S** page 12



The Minden Hills Book Club is a public book club that meets at the library, virtually, or with some members meeting in person and some meeting virtually. Rather than all reading the same book, this book club runs on themes – so all members might read different books but then chat about what they read and how it ties in to the overall idea of the month. /Photo submitted

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Library's book club sets get readers on the same page

from page 11

the friends.

"We don't take ourselves seriously at all, this is not English Lit 101, there's no grading," she said. "We tried to get easy on the appetizers, just don't fuss, because that's not what it's all about."

Roberts said she's appreciative of the Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library for being instrumental in financing the books, to create the book sets, and thinks they offer something for newcomers to the area too, in order to make connections with others.

"It's pure enjoyment, a love of reading, a love of storytelling, how a book can hit you at a certain point in life and be incredibly powerful," she said of the club's impact. "We don't all think the same even though we're friends. I'm sure we'll continue as long as we're all around."

Books on Film

Tammy Rea is in three book clubs. One, the Coasters, is made up of local friends who had come to the area from coast to coast. Also named because, "that's what you put your wine glass, and because it is meant to be a time period where you can just relax a little bit."

She's been in that group for 17 years, with about 12 members, each who hosts once a year and serves a lunch to go with the book.

"So you make lunch once for 12 people, and then you go to 11 lunches," she said.

Books on Film is a public group that came from a connection between Those Other Movies, the Rails End Gallery and the Haliburton County Public Library.

The group knows the book a few months in advance, and has the option to read the story as well as watch the movie.

"Then we talk about everything," said Rea. "First we do a mini book analysis, then we bring in the film. How did they do something? And we really learned that a 100-page story can be a two-and-a-half hour movie. So what do you have to cut out of a 500-page story to tell a movie? Which is always why the book is better."

Rea said it's fascinating to see different interpretations of a story on film over the years, such as with *The Great Gatsby*.

"We'll compare different themes, talk about how they use colour, music, to help tell something," she said. "It's so good."

Some people don't read the book or watch the movie, they just come for the discussion.

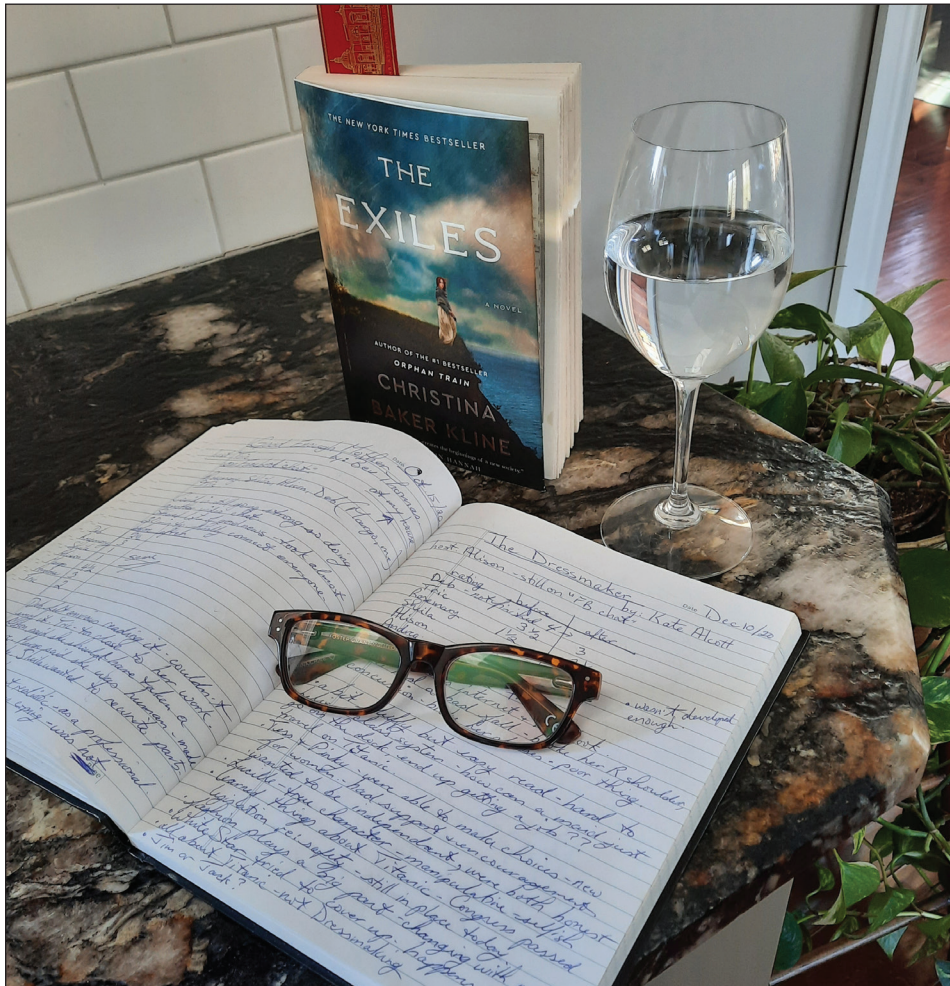
"We always do the discussion of which one did you do first and does that make a difference, and which one would you recommend to people?," said Rea.

To date, the group of anywhere from 12 to 24 people has read 27 books – including *The Princess Bride*, *Atonement*, *Persepolis* – over four years, and has been conducting virtual meetings over the past two years.

"The first dozen we did were books I had never read but always knew I should have, including *The Handmaid's Tale*," said Rea. "And I'm so thankful, I've learned so much, because if you're taking something that's now been turned into film, it's good."

The Gardens of Haliburton

Alisha Lafleur, assistant general manager and activities director at the Gardens of Haliburton said when the residence first opened, staff was purchasing books for the residents, but once pandemic restrictions lifted, they wanted to be able to engage in the community and work with the resources



Andrea Roberts has kept a notebook chronicling her book club's time together. She started recording the name of the book, date they were meeting and who was in attendance, but it has evolved to also include book ratings and anecdotes. /Photo by Andrea Roberts

available. Andrea Brown, programming coordinator with the HCPL gave the group a Gardens library card, information about the book club kits on offer and answered questions the group had about how to get started.

"The detailed book list makes it easier for the residents to look through that and make choices," said Lafleur.

Once a month, the group of about eight people gets together to share their favourite parts of the book.

"The library kits come with a list of questions, that we as activity staff can use to engage and start conversation about the book," said Lafleur. "Which is really beneficial for us because sometimes if we don't have time to read the book ourselves, we can still ask questions that pertain to what they've read."

Lafleur said she appreciates the access of the book list online to see what's available or not, and the option to put book club kits on hold.

"We've also been able to provide large print books or audiobooks for residents who are visually impaired, so that's been beneficial as well," she said.

While a staff member is on hand to help moderate, Lafleur said the group largely organizes themselves.

"We really quickly recognized that our demographic of residents really enjoyed reading and it would be a program they would enjoy and it would be well-received," she said. "When we organize programs, it's always based on the needs and interests of the residents. We started with some donated books and residents continue to add to that collection. They're always coming down and borrowing a book, bringing a book back, and one of the residents said, hey, we should have a book club!"

In the future, Lafleur hopes local authors will visit with their books to do readings for residents in the club.

"For them, it's something to keep them busy and entertained," she said. "This gen-

eration is not overly interested in watching TV so reading is one of their favourite past times. I think they mostly talk about the books themselves but definitely situations come up where they can relate to something that's happened to them similarly, in the past, or maybe it's even a book they've read in the past and so it keeps the conversation going and provides them with a really engaging social experience."

Minden Hills Book Club

Nicole Dolliver facilitates the Minden Hills Book Club, which was formerly led by Nancy Therrien for years and meets at the Minden branch of the library.

The public book club group operates differently than most – Dolliver makes a list based on a theme such as Giller prize winners, books that grab you from the first line or books recommended in celebrity book clubs. Readers then choose what they'd like to read from the list, and while members might all read something different, they can comment on the book they read, or the theme of the month.

"There's a lot of different variety of tastes, so having a themed club allows people to choose which book they prefer, and still be able to discuss it and share the impression they have for it," said Dolliver. "I read a lot of romance, one of the members reads a lot of non-fiction, another likes the feel-good books."

Dolliver said the group that meets shares personal connections with the group, like when one reader could share their knowledge of having lived in India during a read of a book set in that location.

"It's interesting to hear all of that stuff, and I'm thinking, I never would have thought of that," said Dolliver. "When they're talking about the books, it actually helps me with my job a little bit, because people are always asking for recommendations, and I'm able to tell

them that I've heard a book is really good."

Dolliver's list includes about 14 books in each theme. The public group meets on the last Wednesday of every month at 2 p.m.

"It's really nice to hear people so happy about all of these books, that we've put this work into it, the themes we've come up with and the books I've selected. They come in, they're happy, they're talking, they become pretty close. They've gained the connections of their community. It's kind of like a gathering of friends."

Books First

Mary Trepanier is a member of Books First, a book club that has been meeting for about 25 years with the same members.

She said it started when a local teacher suggested a book club in the late '90s, saying, "you find three members, and I'll find three ... Then she called and said, well, I've got six. The teachers were running down the hall saying, 'let me join, let me join,' and in no time we had 10."

Trepanier said the group tries to use the library book sets when possible.

Generally, they get together for a 'choose a book night,' when everyone writes their recommendations on a recipe card that gets passed around for an anonymous vote.

"It has me read books I wouldn't have picked up off the shelf, but I'm glad I did," she said.

Some members like to share their favourite quote or passage, others like finding the unique words, looking them up to provide a definition to the group. In total, Trepanier thinks the group has likely read more than 250 books together over the years.

"All these teachers were teaching at the time, I thought they'd want to take a summer break but they said, no, that's when we get the chance to read," she said.

They meet in the evenings, occasionally at a restaurant, and always at the homes of members who live on the lake in the summer.

They're called Books First, "because everyone would get there and we'd talk and talk, but not about books. We're supposed to talk about the books first, but that doesn't work. We're still ... now it's sort of more than a book club. We've made some lasting friendships."

The group takes a collection when someone has a family member fall ill or pass away, and helps each other out when someone is recovering from a surgery or needs extra help.

Together they've explored areas like Niagara Falls, if the book they're reading takes place there.

"We went down on a road trip," said Trepanier. "We drove to all the places mentioned in the book, and it was great fun."

Guest authors have met with them via Zoom during the pandemic, and they're also able to share photos of details relevant from the books when they meet online.

"It kind of makes it come alive for you," said Trepanier.

"We talk about the style, and even the typeface, if it's good to go to bed with, or a mystery – whether the writer was fair," she said. "There's lots to talk about."

Trepanier uses sticky Post-It notes to make notes on the page when something is of interest to her so she can remember to share it later.

"Anyway to read books is good," said Trepanier. "This is just another way that can be good for you."

For more information about public book clubs, visit www.haliburtonlibrary.ca.



Hawks on three!

On Monday, May 2, the HHSS Red Hawks senior girls' soccer team played their first home game since 2018 due to pandemic restrictions.



Bella Smolen gets a breakaway and races after the ball.



Bella Smolen runs with the ball during the HHSS Red Hawks senior girls' soccer game against Lindsay Collegiate Vocational Institute (LCVI) on Monday, May 2. This was the Hawk's first home game since 2018 due to pandemic restrictions. Although cold and drizzling, their team spirit shone bright on the field. The game finished with a score of 3-1 for LCVI, with Hawks player Emma Tidey scoring their only goal. This was the Hawks' third game of the year, and the team unfortunately had to forfeit their second game of the day due to injury and illness. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Real easy rolling

The Haliburton Real Easy Ryders' Let's Get Rolling Social welcomed both members and newcomers on Sunday May 1 at the Stanhope Firefighters Hall to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the club and to kick off their first full season of bicycle riding since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic. Vice-president of HRER, LeeAnn Cruze, said that approximately 80 people were in attendance at the social. The club currently has 78 paid members, which is expected to rise after the success of the Let's Get Rolling Social. There are 76 rides planned for the year throughout the county ranging in distance and difficulty. Annual membership fees are \$40, and more information can be found at www.haliburtonrealeasyryders.com. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Right, the Haliburton Real Easy Ryders (HRER) club members and newcomers gather at the Let's Get Rolling Social



ASES intermediate girls basketball team shows determination, sportsmanship

On Wednesday, April 27, the Archie Stouffer Elementary School intermediate girls basketball team travelled to Fenelon Falls Secondary School for the county basketball tournament. ASES was defeated by Mariposa in their first game, but came back to win their second game against Bobcaygeon. The team then faced Bobcaygeon again in our final game of the day, but this time

Bobcaygeon was ready for us and claimed the victory. Each and every player on the ASES intermediate girls basketball team has shown tremendous growth in our very short season and their determination and sportsmanship were on display at the county tournament. Well done, girls!

Submitted by Cheryl Patterson



Last week, the ASES intermediate girls basketball team travelled to Fenelon Falls Secondary School for a county basketball tournament. /Photos by Cheryl Patterson

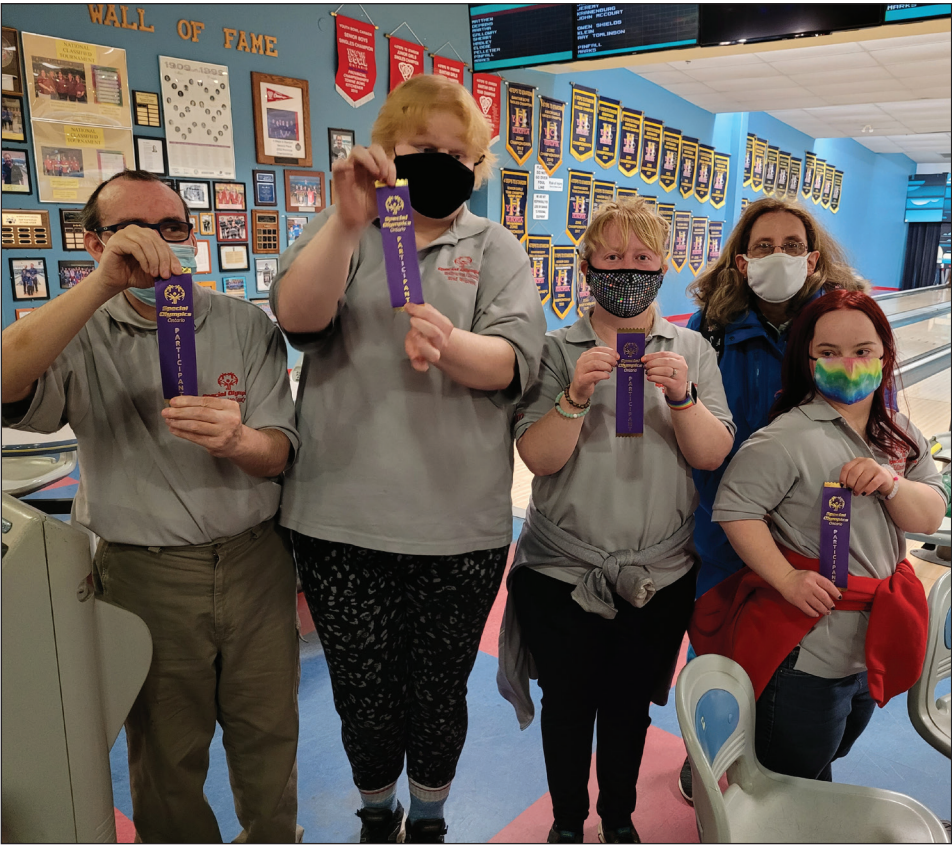


ASES intermediate girls basketball team. Back row: Lilly Casey, Emily Graves, Tory Byrnes, Taya Tomlinson, Taylor Mulock, Joshlynn Ruff; Middle row: Hailey Smith, Holland Meyer, Maddy Walker, Holly Crego; Front row: Jayla Bird, Emily Miller



That's how the Red Wolves roll

The Haliburton County Red Wolves attended their first in-person bowling tournament in two years, gathering in Barrie. "Everyone was very excited," said organizers. "There was a lot of great bowling and a lot of fun. It was good to be back. And the Red Wolves athletes did very well!" Medal winners are Julie Downer, Lucas Anderson, Skylar Pratt, Emily Boccitto and Carrie Crego. /Photos submitted by Tracey Pratt



Ribbon winners are Jason Kitchener, Alyssa Whitaker, Kim Buie, Andrea Austin, and Ainsley Pascoe.

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GENERATIONS

EarlyON opens doors in Kinmount

Along with our regular Play and Learn programs, we have some extra indoor and outdoor activities planned for May. Our stroller walk group with Meghan Cox of Just Movement Fitness is already underway in Haliburton, but we will be taking registrations for our sessions in Minden later this month. Join us and other families with little ones in strollers on Fridays in June at 10:30 for fitness fun. Each class includes walking, balance, strength and flexibility throughout. As well, the Mindfulness Monday program starting on May 9 still has space if you are interested in a morning of enjoyable hands-on activities that will help your child learn to cope with their emotions.

We would like to thank the Haliburton County Public Library for partnering with us to distribute 200 spring activity packages to families during the month of April. These

kits were a big hit, and EarlyON staff are busy ordering books and supplies to create another which will be available in the fall.

If you live in the Kinmount area or know someone with young children who does, we are pleased to announce that an EarlyON program has started up once again at the community centre. On the second and fourth Monday of the month from 10 a.m. - noon, we welcome families and caregivers and their children for a morning of play, art, music and stories. The program filled quickly in April, so make sure to register for a spot in May – see our Facebook or website for more information. Parents and children were very happy to be able to get together again, and we were glad to be back after two long years. One parent commented that her son had not been to a group like this before, and we could see from his smile and enthusiasm that he was loving every minute of it. This connection with other children and families, which is so important for mental health and early learning, is beneficial for the adults as well as the children. It's also a fun morning and an opportunity to make friends, practice skills and language, and burn off some of that abundant energy!

To register for our in-person programs, or for more information, or zoom schedules, please see our facebook page at [oeyc.haliburtonvictoriabrock](https://www.facebook.com/oeyc.haliburtonvictoriabrock) or website at www.oeyc.ca. You can also call us at 705-324-7900 - we love to connect with families!

*By Julie Bosker
EarlyON Child and Family Centre
Program co-ordinator*



RJ Guy takes a spin in the saucer at the Kinmount program.



Sabrina King and her daughter Lyra enjoyed playing with the balls and other toys.



The children really enjoyed the slide and learned how to take turns going down.



Jennifer Handy and Kenneth got creative at the art table.

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HISTORY IN THE HIGHLANDS

Horse thieves in the family

HAVEN'T WE all wanted a horse thief in our family tree? For the descendants of Minden pioneers Alexander Lindsay and his wife Elizabeth Cameron, this wish has come true.

The Lindsay family emigrated from Scotland in 1872 and settled on the Bobcaygeon Road north of Minden. Like some other local folks, all four sons left Minden in their early 20s to find their fortunes in the West. Oldest boys James and Alexander headed to Dakota Territory together, while Duncan roamed the West, eventually settling in Saskatchewan and the youngest son John settled in Minnesota. The two daughters stayed in



ADELE ESPINA
History in the Highlands

Minden, marrying local men. Even though there were opportunities for free farmland and even gold in Dakota Territory, in 1884 James, 24, and Alexander, 20, decided that their way to earn a living was by thievery. It didn't work out very well for either of them, but James at least landed a few feet



Current day Minden relatives – those who can claim to be great nieces and nephews of James Lindsay - can say that their ancestor is buried in Mount Moriah Cemetery, along with Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane! Here, the grave of Wild Bill Hickok in Mount Moriah Cemetery. / Source: www.blackhillsvisor.com

from stardom. Here are some news reports of their adventures in crime: *The Black Hills Daily Times* - June 6, 1884 "The remains of James Lindsley, or Lindsay, the horse thief, were buried in Mount Moriah by the county undertaker, yesterday. Among the effects found upon the person of deceased, were a pocket book containing \$6.95, and two registered letter receipts, one letter having been mailed by James C. Lindsay, at Fort Pierre, April 28th, addressed to Alexander Lindsay at Pierre, and

the other mailed at Minden, Ontario, March 13, by Alex Lindsay to James C. Lindsay, of Pierre; a pocket compass, razor, pocket and dirk knives, and a Colt's 44 calibre revolver, all chambers loaded. The *Rapid City Index*, received yesterday morning, says: Alexander Linsey, the man who was arrested last night as an accomplice in the horse stealing business, made a confession to the sheriff this morning. He said that his brother came down from Sturgis on Saturday evening, and he hid him in Whitford's barn until Sunday night, when they went together and stole the saddle, bridle and horse, and his brother rode off with the horse. Marshall Raymond came up from Sturgis Wednesday evening with the confederate heretofore known to the press and public by the name 'Brigham.' His right name, it appears, is Andy Brown. He has been in and around Deadwood for several months, associated with two or three other hard looking characters, all of whom have been under the surveillance of the officers. Some sort of an examination was held before Justice Jewett, of Sturgis, the details of which, owing to the interruption of telephonic communication, we are unable to give. Brown was committed without bail, and his pal, the soldier, was turned over to the authorities at Fort Meade.

There is no longer any doubt that Brown, the soldier, and Lindsay, were members of a numerous but recently organized gang of freebooters, whose prospective field and line of operations included this entire country, and anything and everything by which they could turn a dishonest nickel. Considerable quantities of goods of various kinds have recently been expressed from this city to Sturgis, and there received by Lindsay. Fortunately exposure occurred before the nefarious work was well inaugurated."

Current day Minden relatives – those who can claim to be great nieces and nephews of James Lindsay - can say that their ancestor is buried in Mount Moriah Cemetery, along with Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane! The reports in the newspapers continued. Apparently, the shooting of James Lindsay was not an event sanctioned by law enforcement. *The Black Hills Weekly Journal* – August 15, 1884 "Bill Roy was indicted by the grand jury at Deadwood this week for the killing of James Lindsay on June 3rd, near Sturgis. It will be remembered Lindsay was the man who stole a horse from Mr. Bliss, of this place, and was killed while resisting arrest. From the circumstances surrounding the case, so far as we have learned them, it is not probably Roy will be convicted"

The Black Hills Daily Times – August 23, 1884

"Verdict in the Roy Case, Manslaughter in the Second Degree There were many surprised men on Friday, in this city, when the verdict of the jury was rendered in the Roy case, for shooting an alleged horse thief. There was no doubt that there was a gang of thieves organizing at the time of the shooting in the neighborhood of Sturgis. The people had determined to put an end to the thieves and thieving at once. This was all right if they were satisfied to have the law take its course, and from the circumstances in the Roy case, this seems to have been the determination. Mr. Roy, with Mr. France, went out for the purpose of arresting the leader of the gang, whose name was Lindsay, one of the men who pride themselves in having "Red Jack" or "Black John" as a pet name. He was supposed to be a dangerous man and would not be taken alive. Of course those who were to take him knew this, and they could not take any chances with a horse thief in the dark. His companions had given him away, and there was no doubt he had stolen the horse which he road from Rapid. This was the position Roy found himself in. There is no doubt he might have been hasty, but he had no time to lose, and he had a desperate man before him. The night was such a one as is always after the moon had gone down, and but few men could have borne the suspense of waiting for many seconds before bringing his man down under the circumstances. The principal evidence bearing on the rapid shooting was that of one of the gang of thieves, who had been convinced he was in a dangerous business, and concluded he had better squeal. The jury, no doubt, acted as they thought best in the matter, and are not to blame for the verdict, as there have been some similar cases that have been such as to make decent citizens to feel that it is time that promiscuous shooting and hanging were ended. This, however, ought not to in any way bias their opinions in a verdict, and we think it did not, but there are many extenuating circumstances in this case that ought to be considered by the jury and court, and we have no doubt but they will give Roy all the benefit of the surrounding circumstances."

And so, William Roy, guilty of manslaughter in the second degree, was sentenced to two to four years. What became of John Lindsay's brother Alexander? *The Black Hills Daily Times* reported on November 29th that "Alexander Lindsey was acquitted by the Rapid jury of the charge of complicity in the theft of H.S. Bliss' horse. It will be remembered that Lindsey's brother was killed near Scoop, as an outgrowth of this theft, and that William Roy was cinched for the killing."

Alexander Lindsay moved to California, where he was noted on the 1900 U.S. census as a sailor, living in Yolo County. After that year, he disappears from the records, perhaps to a life on the seas. And their sisters? Catherine Lindsay married Daniel Taylor of Hindon Hill, with whom she had a dozen children. As well as many local Taylor descendants, their daughters married into the Kernohan, Checkley, Hay, Pollard, and Milligan families. Louisa married John Gouldie of Minden, and they had three daughters who married into the Cox, Trumbull, and MacKay families. From a quick scan of their family trees, it appears that a fair number of Minden folks can say that they are related to horse thieves, if they wish!

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Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 18

KINMOUNT NEWS

Lorraine's ribbons raise \$1,900 for Red Cross

Excitement is brewing in Kinmount! With the return of most annual events and activities, it is hoped that those new to the area will finally get to know the "real" Kinmount and everything it has to offer. One such opportunity is the Meet Your Kinmount Community event taking place Saturday, May 28, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Kinmount Community Centre. Most area groups will be on hand to meet and greet with displays showcasing what their organizations are all about. Attendees will enjoy mingling, a free BBQ, and an hourly chance to win some fabulous door prizes. Donations for the food bank appreciated.

Drum roll please ... Highlands Cinemas opens May 6. Then, the Kinmount Legion Ladies Auxiliary is thrilled to be serving their first sit down meal in over two years! Treat Mom to a Mother's Day Breakfast Sunday May 8, from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. The Farmers Market kicks off Saturday, May 21 at the entrance to scenic Austin Sawmill Park. Catch up with old friends and old favourites. Meet and chat with Guy Scott, who will be there hosting a book signing with his popular new book, *The Story of Kinmount Fair*. Explore the Model Railway Museum and the Heritage Centre in the Train Station and just a short stroll up the trail lays another delight to explore, Kinmount Artisans Marketplace. Fingers crossed for good weather! The Kinmount District Health Centre Foundation extends an invitation to attend their annual general meeting by Zoom on Monday, May 16 at 9 a.m. RSVP to kdhsf@kdhc.ca to receive a link.

Think you may have a heritage apple tree on your property? Haliburton County Master Gardeners have partnered with the University

of Guelph to inventory and identify heritage apple varieties in our area. Free workshops take place throughout the season. The first information session is at the Minden Branch of Haliburton County Public Library on Saturday, May 14 at 2 p.m. Pre-registration is not required. For more information contact: haliburtonmastergardener.ca

Hats off to Kinmountian Lorraine Turcotte of Lorraine's Floral Creations, for coming up with a brilliant fundraising idea for Ukraine. Lorraine has created and sold nearly 200 decorative blue and yellow bows and to date has donated over \$1,900 to the Red Cross for Ukraine. Lorraine absorbed the cost of all materials so 100 per cent of funds raised are donated. Bows are available at a cost of \$10 while supplies last. If interested in helping Lorraine make a difference contact her at 705-344-1531.

Take care and enjoy the merry month of May!

By Lynne Kilby



Lorraine Turcotte has raised more than \$1,900 selling decorative blue and yellow ribbons she creates and sells for \$10. All ribbons used are donated, and 100 per cent of all money raised has been donated to the Red Cross for humanitarian efforts in Ukraine. For more information call Lorraine at 705-344-1531. /Photo submitted



AVIS DE CANDIDATURE

Loi de 1996 sur les élections municipales (s. 32)

(Please be advised this is the French language version of the Notice of Nomination for French Language Public School Board Trustee – Conseiller(ère), Conseil scolaire Viamonde)

1 conseiller/ère scolaire francophone

Les candidats peuvent déposer leurs avis de candidature au poste de conseiller scolaire francophone lors des élections municipales et scolaires de 2022, qui représentera le secteur 1 et sera élu par tous les électeurs francophones de la région de Durham, les comtés d'Haliburton, de Northumberland et de Peterborough et les villes de Kawartha Lakes, Peterborough et Hastings en communiquant avec le secrétaire de la ville d'Oshawa au 50 rue Centre Sud, Oshawa ON, ou avec le secrétaire local/directeur du scrutin du comté de Haliburton aux coordonnées ci-dessous :

Canton d'Algonquin Highlands
Directeur du scrutin – Dawn Newhook
1123 rue North Shore
Algonquin Highlands (Ontario) K0M 1J1
Tél. : 705-489-2379
www.algonquinhighlands.ca

Municipalité de Highlands East
Directrice du scrutin - Robyn Rogers
2249 rue Loop, C.P. 295
Wilberforce, (Ontario) K0L 3C0
Tél. : 705-448-2981
www.highlandseast.ca

Municipalité de Dysart et al
Directrice du scrutin – Mallory Bishop
135 avenue Maple, C.P. 389
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www.dysartet.al.ca

Canton de Minden Hills
7 rue Milne, C.P. 359
Minden, (Ontario) K0M 2K0
Tél. : 705-286-1260
Sans frais : 1-844-277-1260
www.mindenhill.ca

Les formulaires de candidature (formulaire 1) doivent être déposés, en personne ou par votre représentant, auprès du secrétaire/directeur du scrutin de la municipalité concernée durant les heures d'ouverture normales du 2 mai 2022 au jeudi 18 Aout 2022, et entre 9 h et 14 h le vendredi 19 Aout 2022 (jour de la nomination). Des frais de dépôt de 100 \$ s'appliquent. Ils doivent être payés en liquidités, par débit ou par chèque ou mandat payables à l'ordre de la municipalité concernée.

THE TOWNSHIP OF MINDEN HILLS

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills proposes to consider by-laws to stop up, close, and convey those parcels of land more particularly described as follows:

1. File No. PLSRA2021065: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Twelve Mile Lake, lying in front 1022 Medley Trail located within Lot 9, Concession 11, Geographic Township of Minden
2. File No. PLSRA2021085: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Big Bob Lake, lying in front of 1520 Bob Lake Road located Lot 12, Concession 2, Geographic Township of Anson
3. File No. PLSRA2020060: Part of the original shore road allowance along the shore of Spar Lake, lying in front of 1339 Spar Lake Road located Lot 22, Concession 1, Geographic Township of Lutterworth

The above noted applications are available for inspection in the Building and Planning Department located at 7 Milne Street, Minden, Ontario by appointment only. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the undersigned or by visiting www.mindenhill.ca/newsroom.

AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE any person who claims that their land will be prejudicially affected is asked to contact the undersigned at their earliest convenience. If deemed advisable, By-laws giving effect to the proposed closure and conveyance will be passed by the Council for the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills.

Amanda Dougherty, B.A. (Hons)
Township Planning Consultant
705-742-2297x278
adougherty@mindenhill.ca

AROUND THE COUNTY TOWN



Minden Rotary gets the job done

Minden Rotary members gather after their annual litter clean-up along Deep Bay Road on May 2. The group will be running the barbecue at the grand opening of the Minden arena this Saturday. /Photo by Sally Moore



Local landmark of the month

The footbridge on the Riverwalk in the village of Minden. This graceful bridge, custom created for the Riverwalk, is the longest pedestrian-only bridge in the Haliburton Highlands. It completes the loop that allows you to take a walking tour of the riverfront in the village of Minden. The Riverwalk, along with the Boardwalk that connects to the Minden Cultural Centre and Minden library is a great destination. It is in close proximity to several patios, cafes, shopping and recreational areas. If you want to create your own Local Landmark road trip, here is all the information you need: <https://myhaliburtonhighlands.com/local-landmarks>. /Photo submitted by the Haliburton Highlands tourism team

To see your loved ones on this page, send photos to sue@haliburtonpress.com



Mindful gardening

Gelert resident Sarah Teljeur found herself at one with nature while working on gardening and tree planting with her parents, John and Sonja on May 1. /Photo by John Teljeur



Fridays are for fun

Callum Button spent Friday afternoon at the park, and watching for planes to come in at Stanhope Airport with his grandparents, Vicki and Marty Sisson of West Guilford on April 29. /Photo by Vicki Sisson



An artist's touch

Betty Inglis works with clay during a craft session at Hyland Crest last month. Betty is a regular reader of the *Minden Times* - Hi, Betty!

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4	1	9	3	2	5	7	8	6
2	6	3	8	9	7	1	4	5
3	7	8	2	4	1	5	6	9
9	2	1	6	5	8	4	3	7
5	4	6	9	7	3	8	1	2
7	8	5	1	3	2	6	9	4
1	9	2	5	6	4	3	7	8
6	3	4	7	8	9	2	5	1

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12-16 week contract position (renewal possible)
The Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock (OEYC HVB) is a non-profit organization that provides free, responsive and innovative programs for families/caregivers with children newborn-6 years of age.

Early Learning Facilitator Assistants are responsible for helping to plan and facilitate early learning and caregiver education/support programs. Our facilitators and assistants offer activities to promote enquiry-based learning and socialization for children 6 years of age and under. Working alongside other OEYC HVB staff and community partners, they support the needs of the participants and share up to date information and resources. Building positive connections with children, parents, grand-parents and caregivers is essential to this role.

The successful candidate:

- has experience working directly with children and families.
- has an up to date Criminal Reference Check, including Vulnerable Sector Check.
- holds current First Aid and CPR certification (or be willing to obtain).
- has an Ontario G-class license and is willing to travel within the City of Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton County.

Please submit an email of intent and resume to Julie Bosker (juliebosker@oeyc.ca), EarlyON Program Manager no later than May 9, 2022. We thank all who apply, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock Inc. is seeking an EarlyON Early Learning Facilitator

6 month contract position—may be renewed or made permanent
The Ontario Early Years Centre Haliburton Victoria Brock (OEYC HVB) is a non-profit organization that provides free, responsive and innovative programs for families/caregivers with children newborn-6 years of age.

Early Learning Facilitators are responsible for planning and facilitating early learning and caregiver education/support programs. Our facilitators offer activities to promote enquiry-based learning and socialization for children 6 years of age and under. Working alongside other OEYC HVB staff and community partners, they support the needs of the participants and share up to date information and resources. Building positive connections with children, parents, grand-parents and caregivers is essential to this role.

The successful candidate:

- is a RECE, or has evidence of ongoing coursework towards this designation; and has experience working directly with children and families.
- has an up to date Criminal Reference Check, including Vulnerable Sector Check.
- holds current First Aid and CPR certification (or be willing to obtain).
- has an Ontario G-class license and is willing to travel within the City of Kawartha Lakes/Haliburton County.

Please submit an email of intent and resume to Julie Bosker (juliebosker@oeyc.ca), EarlyON Program Manager no later than May 9, 2022. We thank all who apply, only those selected for an interview will be contacted.



Job Posting
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We are currently offering a full-time (35 hour/week) 1 year contract, with opportunity to lead into a full-time permanent position. Under the direction of the Family Support Team Lead, the worker is responsible for assessing and providing services for children, youth, and parents in Haliburton County to address social, emotional, and behavioural needs.

The ideal candidate will be a Registered Social Service Worker or Registered Psychotherapist with a background in Mental Health and an interest in the issues currently impacting the children, youth, and parents in our community.

Point in Time is committed to building an organization that reflects the communities we work with. We encourage applications from members of Black, Indigenous, and racialized communities, LGBTQ+ communities, people with disabilities, and members of other equity seeking groups. Point in Time will provide accommodation during the recruitment process to ensure equal access to applicants with disabilities, upon the request of the applicant.

Visit www.pointintime.ca for a detailed job description.
Please send cover letter and resume by May 13, 2022
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**Point in Time Centre for Children Youth and Parents P.O. Box 1306,
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Qualifications:

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- Highly developed customer service skills
- Strong time-management skills and multitasking ability
- Proficient in Microsoft Office, with aptitude to learn new software and systems
- The successful candidate must possess a strong work ethic requiring minimal supervision, good organizational skills and the ability to work within a team environment
- RIBO license would be considered an asset but not required

If interested please send resume and cover letter to:
Stefan Bjelis
by email: sbjelis@vaseyinsurance.com

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650 OBITUARIES



In Loving Memory of
Diane Pratt (nee Sutherland)

Passed away peacefully at Hyland Crest Senior Citizen Home, Minden on Wednesday April 27, 2022 with her family at her side. In her 79th year.


Beloved wife of the late Fred (2017). Dear mother of Dave (Shelley), Doug (Lynn), Don (Liz), and Duane (Tracey). Loving grandma of Nathan, Brittany, Stephanie, Gregory, Jason, Jimmy (Denise), Robert (Susan), Coral (Ken), Skylar and great grandma of Daimen, Emma, Izabel, Luke, Logan, Tyler, Clara and Wesley. Dear sister of Frances, Marie (deceased), Ken (deceased), Harry (deceased), Joe, and Gary. Fondly remembered by her many nieces, nephews, family and friends. The family would like to thank the staff at Hyland Crest for the amazing care and friendship they offered to Diane over the years.

Friends are invited to visit the family at the Gordon A. Monk Funeral Home Ltd., 127 Bobcaygeon Rd., P.O. Box 427, Minden, Ontario K0M 2K0 on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 from 11:00 am until the time of Service to Celebrate Diane's Life at 1:00 pm. Reception to follow at the Monk-Cray Family Centre at the funeral home. Interment at the Minden Cemetery. The family has requested that all attendees wear facial coverings at the visitation, funeral service and reception.

Memorial Donations to the Haliburton Highlands Health Service Foundation (HHHSF-Hyland Crest Residents Council) would be appreciated by the family.



www.gordonmonkfuneralhome.com



In Loving Memory of
John Angus Precoor

November 5, 1944 - April 26, 2022
(GM Employee for over 32 years Retired May 1996)

With great sadness, we announce the passing of John, quietly at home with family around him, on Tuesday April 26, 2022 (12:25 p.m) in his 78th year.

Loving husband of Dianne Precoor (nee Treen) celebrated 55 amazing years. (January 7th, 2022). Loving Dad and best friend of sons Jeff and wife Kelly (Stanfield) Oshawa, Jason of Gelert, Ontario. Survived by his much loved grandchildren, Vanessa, Keegan, Cassidy, Kieran and Jacob, his much loved great grandchildren, Natalie, Maverick, Tierney and Bryson.

Dear brother of Alex, Lorraine, Mabel, Clarence, Christena, Judy, Bonny and Susan. Survived by his many sister-in-laws, brother-in-laws, (nieces, nephews, great and great, great nieces and nephews) and cousins. Pre-deceased by his parents Gordon and Christena Precoor (nee MacLeod), brothers, Frank and Wayne, sisters, Shirley and infant Margaret.

Thank you will never be enough words to all the Healthcare Doctors, Nurses and their staff, Brooklin Medical Centre, Lakeridge Health Oshawa Hospital, Toronto General Hospital, St. Michaels Hospital for these past 19 plus years, that made it possible to keep him with us, though his Rheumatoid Arthritis Disease, Heart Disease, Vascular Disease and Pulmonary Fibrosis Disease and his many surgeries. The care and compassion he and his family received these past 4 months from The HealthCare Services, to enable us to keep him at home is beyond words. Palliative Care Doctor McAllister and nurse Amber, they were both here within minutes of his passing, we will forever be grateful.

John so enjoyed his time with the Auxiliary Whitby OPP Detachment in the late 60's, a member of Oshawa Bowling leagues for many years, coaching kids in Youth Bowling, Glen Stewart Park hockey and baseball teams, his many hunting and fishing trips to Northern Ontario with his (late father-in-law Elmer Treen) and brother-in-law Norman Treen. We both looked so forward when sister Patti would call and plan our trips up North to Haileybury, Niagara Falls and the Casino's.

Arrangements entrusted to Barnes Memorial Funeral Home, 5295 Thickson Road N. Whitby, Ontario Cremation has taken place.

A Private Family celebration will take place at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations to Sick Children's Hospital Toronto, Ontario, Lakeridge Health Hospital Oshawa, Ontario (Heartcare Unit and Palliative Care) would be much appreciated or charity of your choice.

650 OBITUARIES

In Memoriam
Ronald Wesley (Ronnie) Rivers
July 8, 1946 ~ April 25, 2022



With sadness, we, his family, announce Ronnie's passing in the province of Alberta. For many years he lived "Out West" working throughout much of the country and beyond, from behind the windshield of a truck. Ronnie has jammed his last gear and hung up his old twelve string guitar, but he will pick and sing the golden country oldies as long as our hearts and memories last. A service and burial of his ashes will take place at a later date.

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Monday, April 14, 1997

Board hit again A few dollars more

by Andrew Milne

The school board had yet another unpleasant surprise to deal with at its special budget meeting last week.

On top of the \$270,000 cut from the provincial grant, the board was handed a memo from the municipality of Dysart et al announcing that a tax appeal dating back to 1991 was successful and the board's share was \$149,000.

Business superintendent Jim Bradley said he could only apologize to the board as he made the announcement. He said that his preparation of possible budget scenarios did not take the amount into consideration. Administration, he explained, simply didn't have time to deal with it.

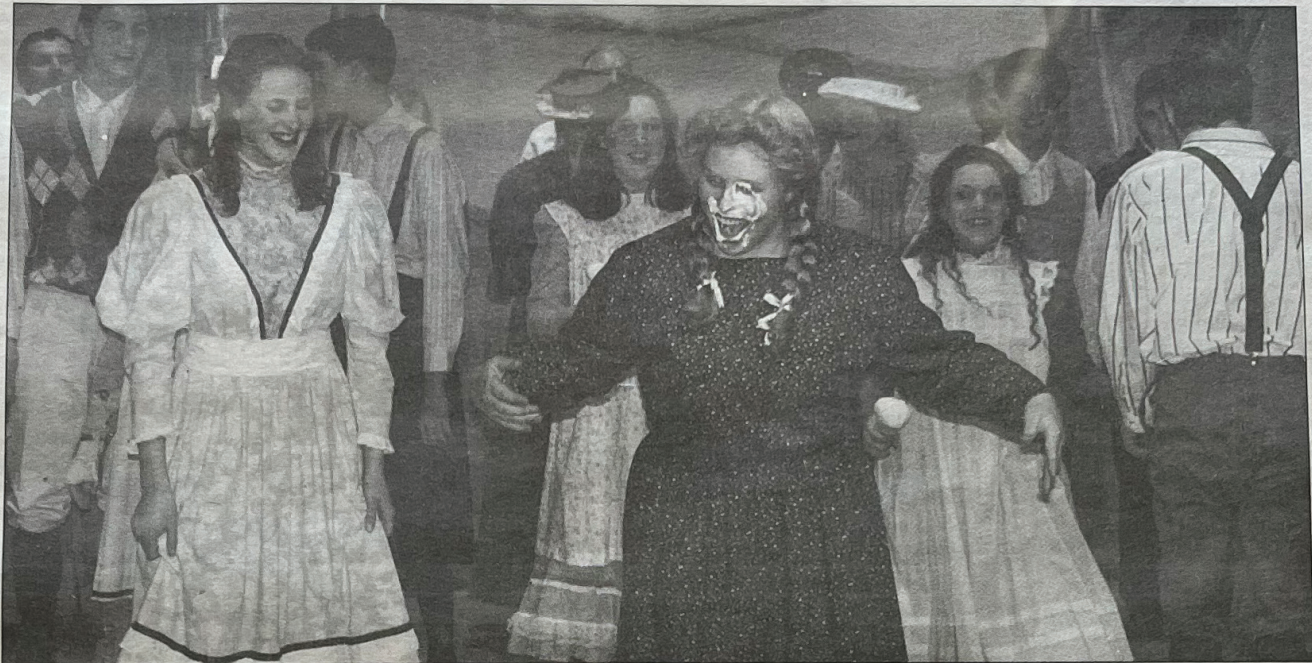
The meeting was told that a Dysart landowner had appealed his taxes, and had won that appeal. The \$149,000 was the board's share of the larger total appeal amount of \$220,730. The remaining \$71,730 of the refund will have to be absorbed by the Municipality of Dysart et al.

Bradley said briefly that the rebate is related to the issue of the value of forested lands. Dysart reeve Murray Fearrey said later the appeal did not deal directly with the managed forest tax rebate issue or the protest of 1994. Dysart et al's letter on the subject described the appeal as retroactive to 1991.

The \$149,000 amount is the second unpleasant surprise for the board in the last few weeks prior to their last budget. The \$270,000 cut from the province — equal to last year's — followed on the heels of an announcement from Minister of Education and Training John Snobelen that education funding would be kept stable for 1997-1998. The board is heading into its budget setting process this week.

Fearrey said last week that while the \$72,000 Dysart will

(more on page 4)



Her first taste of ice cream

The musical production Anne of Green Gables opened this past weekend with a splash. At each performance the audience was delighted with the bouncy musical numbers and heart-warming story. The first act of the play ends with a picnic scene in which the heroine, Anne Shirley, played by Shirleen Dehaan, gets her first taste of ice cream when Gilbert Blythe, played by Bryn Gray, is tripped and accidentally pushes a cone into her face. To enable the scene to be completed, the staging called for just a small amount of ice cream to be left on her face, however, as the photo above shows, during the dress rehearsal, things got a little out of hand. The ice cream cone was fully charged (with whipped cream) and as

Gilbert tripped, all of Anne's face, her hands, part of her costume and the stage were splattered. Needless to say, Anne and other cast members, including Kate Campbell as Diana Barry, left, and Rebeka Bjelis playing Josie Pye, right, were surprised by the unscripted consequences of collision and momentarily slipped out of character. Shirleen quickly recovered and completed the scene while the other members of the cast struggled to maintain their composure. As those who have attended subsequent performances can attest, the ice cream scene is a little less messy but just as enjoyable as this first run-through. For more photos from Anne of Green Gables please turn to page 5.

Mixed findings in amalgamation studies

by Jerry Grozelle

Four committees from the United Townships of Galway and Cavendish have been struck to study restructuring, specifically how the municipality could benefit from one or more of four scenarios. One committee's mandate was to determine the benefits, if any, of retaining the status quo -- the municipality of Galway-Cavendish remaining as it is, within the County of Peterborough. The second group studied the possible effects if the municipality left Peterborough County and joined Haliburton County. Group three's directive was to see if there are any benefits to be gained from amalgamating with the municipalities of Harvey, Chandos and Burleigh-Anstruther. The fourth group's mandate was to analyze the possible advantages of amalgamating with Snowdon and Glamorgan, within Haliburton County.

Those committees presented their findings at the April 8 Galway-Cavendish council meeting.

Don MacKay, chair of the first group, noted that there were no dissenting opinions within his group of five committee members. He also stated that his committee studied only the option of amalgamation with Harvey Township because analysis of statistics from Chandos, Belmont-Methuen and Burleigh-Anstruther would have been too lengthy to be accomplished within the time frame allotted. Therefore, a "very general" comparison between Haliburton and Peterborough counties was conducted, with a further comparative study between Galway-Cavendish and Harvey Township.

"The status quo is the way to go," he told council. "A move to Haliburton would not serve the highest percentage of the popula-

tion of Galway-Cavendish.

The report states that Galway-Cavendish is a well administered municipality, with a lower per household cost than Harvey Township.

"Only if amalgamation becomes mandatory, this committee would be sympathetic to an amalgamation with Harvey Township in the County of Peterborough," MacKay stated.

Later, in the report's conclusions, it is stated that "Harvey Township has 13 times more welfare costs than Galway-Cavendish and yet only has 4.5 times more permanent population."

It is further noted that Harvey has four times the office staff and only 1.5 times more households. It also spends 2.98 times more per year than Galway-Cavendish.

Group One's report made several statements and quoted numerous figures that have been refuted by several members of other committees. Conclusions in almost a dozen points have been challenged, complete with an analysis of where each statement was in error and a list of contact people who can verify the authenticity of the corrections.

"I have some problems with that report," said Galway-Cavendish deputy-reeve Peter Franzen, who is among those who have challenged Group One's report. Accordingly, he documented his objections to the findings stated in the report, including:

1. The figures quoted for the specific grants per household in Peterborough County amount to \$176.78 compared to \$456.39 in Haliburton County are incorrect.

2. The conclusion that Haliburton is more dependent on grants

(more on page 3)

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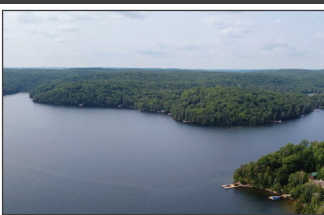
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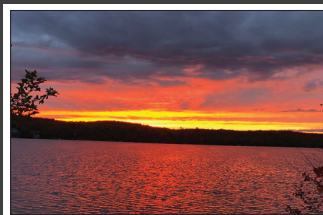
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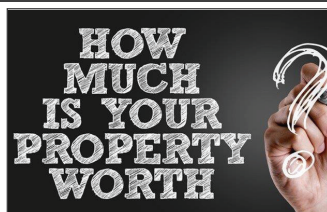
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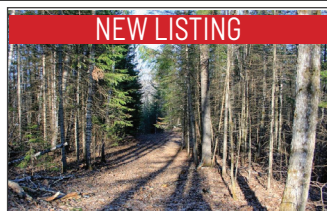
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